

T H E
LONDON MAGAZINE.

M A Y, 1739.

JOURNAL of the PROCEEDINGS and DEBATES in the
POLITICAL CLUB, continued from Page 171.

S I R,

A LTHO' we had no Debate in our Club upon the Subject Matter of the following Speech, yet as it relates to some Affairs of a very extraordinary Nature that have lately happened in this Kingdom, which have not been so much taken Notice of as they deserve; I believe you will think it worth a Place in your Collection.

If you had shewn as little Regard to Religion and the Laws of your Country, as the Authors and Collectors of the *Gentleman's Magazine* usually do in their Collections, I should not have sent you this Speech; because, if you had given such a Stab to Religion, both natural and revealed, as they have done by republishing that ridiculous and atheistical Letter from *Cambridge*, first published in the *Daily Gazetteer*, I should not have expected that you would have published a Speech, that so justly finds Fault with the Publication of that Letter. I do not, indeed, wonder that the *Gazetteers* should be allowed to

take indecent Liberties with the Laws and Constitution of their Country; but I was a little surprized, that Mr. *Urban* should have dared to reprint a Letter for which the Author was punished, tho' he never published it; for surely the Publication of such a Letter is a more heinous Crime, and more highly deserves the Animadversion of the Magistrate, than the bare writing it to a private Friend and Correspondent. The writing of such a Letter might, perhaps, be a Breach of the Statutes of an University, but the Publication of it is an Offence against the Laws of this, and every well-regulated Society.

For this Reason, I was at first not a little surprized at Mr. *Urban's* taking such a Liberty in his last Month's Collection; but when I was told, that in his Collection for the former Month, he had reprinted a Paper, for which the first Printer was sent to, and is still confined in *Newgate*, my Surprize ceased, because I concluded he was, and from henceforth shall always look upon him to be at least a Confederate, if not one of

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the illustrious Authors of the *Daily Gazetteer*; and that therefore he thinks, he may take more Liberty than any honest Man will, or dare take.

After this short Introduction, I must acquaint you, that *Wednesday* the 11th of last Month being one of our Club Days, as soon as Dinner was over, the Hon. *M. Atilius* pulled out of his Pocket the *Gazetteer* of that Day, and addressed the Club thus,

Mr. President,

Sir,

AS few of the Gentlemen of this Club ever read the *Gazetteer*, I must desire Leave to have that Paper which was published this Morning, read by your Secretary, before I make any Remarks upon it.

(The *Gazetteer* being accordingly read to the Club, he went on as follows, viz.)

Sir,

WITHOUT entering into the Dispute about the Truth of the fundamental Points of natural Religion, which, I take to be, the Existence of a supreme and overruling Spirit, the Immateriality, and consequently the Immortality of the Soul of Man, and the Certainty of a future State of Happiness or Misery, I shall lay it down as a Maxim, that it is the Business of every well-regulated Society, and of every wise and honest Magistrate, to propagate and establish a Belief in these three fundamental Points; and to discourage, or even punish, every publick Attempt to shake this Belief in any Member of the Society.

This I say, Sir, will always be held as an inviolable Maxim by every diligent, faithful, and wise Magistrate; because a firm Belief in these three great Points must greatly contribute to the Encouragement of

Virtue, and towards rendering every

Member of the Society ready, upon all Occasions, to perform those Duties which he owes to God, to Mankind, and to his Country. For, even to suppose with Mr. Collins, that the Actions of Men are the necessary Effects of the Motives, and that Men always chuse that, which at the Time of Action, appears to them to be the greater Good, or the lesser Evil, (which I am far from granting) yet even upon this Hypothesis it is absolutely necessary for the Support and Well-being of Society, to propagate and establish a Belief in a future State of Happiness or Misery, dependent upon the good or bad Actions of Men in this Life; because if temporal Rewards and Punishments are Motives for good or bad Actions, as Mr. Collins admits they are, surely eternal Rewards and Punishments, to be distributed by a Judge who cannot be deceived, are Motives which must more necessarily produce their Effect.

Upon this Occasion, Sir, I can hardly refrain from some enthusiastic Exclamations upon the Wisdom of the Author of Nature, who has made a Belief, in the fundamental Truths of natural Religion, so necessary for the Preservation of Mankind, and for the Support and Happiness of every Society; and if I were to speak before a Multitude of the Vulgar and Ignorant, I should give a Loose to that Spirit of Enthusiasm, which I at present find so strong an Inclination to indulge; but as I now speak before those who never allow any Passion, not even a religious Enthusiasm, to transport them beyond those Bounds which Reason assigns to every Passion, I must give a Check to that Passion which I find rising in my Soul, and apply myself only to the rational Faculty of those that hear me.

That in all the important Actions

of our Lives we ought to be, and generally are, prompted by that which we think the greatest Good or the least Evil, is certainly true, tho' our Opinion, or the last Judgment of the Understanding, in such Cases, is far from being the Cause, and much less the necessary Cause, of the Action we perform: But, with regard to most of the Actions we do, or can perform, there is a present and a future Good, a private and a publick Good, that are, I may say, at perpetual Variance, and continually combating which shall have the Preference. The Dictates of natural Religion, the Dictates of Reason, the Dictates of Christianity, and the Dictates of Honour, direct us, upon all Occasions, to prefer the Good of the Publick; the Dictates of Pride, Envy, Vanity, Avarice, or Luxury, often direct us to sacrifice the Good of the Publick, to some present and selfish View, or to the Gratification of some domineering Passion.

The Fear of the Gallows, Sir, may prevent a low Wretch from picking a Pocket, or from murdering his Neighbour; but the Villain in an exalted Station who plunders the Publick, or murders or betrays the Liberties of his Country, is but seldom in Fear of the Gallows; it is too often of his Party. If such a high Wretch can work himself up, to a thorough Disbelief of a future State, it is a great Encouragement for him to proceed in his Villanies, and by heaping Crime upon Crime, to secure himself against temporal Punishment.

On the other hand, Sir, a sordid Wretch, or a Man vainly fond of human Applause, may do a real service to the Publick, or to his Country, for the Sake of that Reward which the Law-givers of his Country have been so wise as to

provide, or for the Sake of human Applause and Esteem, an Appetite which the All-wise Author of Nature has deeply engraved upon the Mind of every human Creature, and an Appetite which every honest and wise Magistrate will endeavour to propagate, because, with most Men, it is the chief Incitement to virtuous and great Actions; but, the sordid Expectation of a temporal Reward, can never be made use of as a Motive for prevailing with a Man to sacrifice himself and Family, for the Good of Mankind or his Country, which, in many Cases, may be necessary; and the Expectation of human Applause, can never be made use of as a Motive for prevailing with a Man to oppose a fashionable and epidemical Madness; because, by such an Opposition, he must expect to meet with the Contempt of his Contemporaries; and, unless he be a Man of great Note or Figure in his Country, his Opposition will be forgot, before his Countrymen come to be cured of the Madness they then labour under.

Thus, Sir, we may see, that temporal Rewards or Punishments can, in many Cases, be no Motives for performing virtuous, or abstaining from vicious Actions. But, suppose a Man fully convinced of the Existence of a supreme Spirit; suppose him convinced that that Spirit has prescribed to him a certain Rule of Action, and that that Rule is, to be ready upon all Occasions, to sacrifice every private View, nay his own Life, to the Good of Mankind, or to the Good of his Country; and, suppose him convinced, that if he complies with this Rule, he will meet with an eternal Reward in a future State, and that if he neglects or transgresses it, he must, in a future State, be eternally

miserable; surely, if the Expectation of a temporal Reward or Punishment can be a prevailing Motive for performing a virtuous, or against committing a vicious Action, the Expectation of an eternal Reward or Punishment will, in all Cases, be a more prevailing Motive; and may, in many Cases of a private Nature, be a prevailing Motive, when no Hope of a temporal Reward can excite, nor the Fear of any temporal Punishment deter.

A firm Belief in the three fundamental Points of natural Religion is, therefore, so necessary for promoting the Good of Mankind, and the Happiness of every Society, that the Civil Magistrate, tho' he had no Regard to Religion, yet, if he has a due Regard to the Happiness of the Society to which he belongs, he will certainly prevent or punish every publick Attempt that may be made for unsettling or eradicating this Belief. That the Letter published in the *Gazetteer* now read to you, is an Attempt of this Kind, I believe no Gentleman will doubt; and, that the Publication of it in a News Paper, which is so industriously and so gratuitously spread over the whole Nation, must be attended with worse Consequences than the bare Writing it to a particular Friend, is what every Gentleman will, I believe, readily admit. As for the unfortunate Man that wrote it, I do not know but that he was a little too severely dealt with; especially, if it be true, that some unjustifiable Means were made use of, for getting the Letter from the Gentleman to whom it was wrote; for, the private Conversation or Correspondence of Friends, while it continues private, is what no Government can regulate, no Government ought to meddle with, none but a tyrannical one does.

Therefore, the Punishing of a Man for the bare Writing of such a Letter, can be justified by nothing but that strict Regard that ought to be had to the Principles as well as Practice of all those who are appointed or allowed, by the Laws of Society to educate our Youth, or to instruct the Vulgar and Ignorant. With respect to such Gentlemen, indeed, they ought to be kept under a more strict Discipline, than is necessary for the other Members of the Society: Perhaps it would not be wrong, to treat them as we do our Soldiers, by subjecting them to particular Laws for binding them to their good Behaviour; for, they ought to be a great deal more watchful over both their Words and Actions, than other Men have Occasion to be; and therefore, may be punished, at least, with Degradation or Incapacity, for Faults that ought to be over-look'd in other Men.

Upon this Maxim only, I think it is, Sir, that the Punishing the Author of this Letter, can be justified; but, there is a great Difference between writing a blasphemous Letter privately to a Friend, and publishing it to the World. The Writer offends only the Man he writes to, and if he has a Mind to overlook the Offence, the Government has no Occasion to take notice of it; but the Publisher commits a publick Offence, and ought therefore to be punished by the publick Magistrate. For this Reason, Sir, I was surprized to find this atheistical and blasphemous Letter published in any of our News Papers, especially in a News Paper that has the Character of being countenanced by some of our chief Magistrates. Before this Morning, I confess, I was from several Circumstances inclined to believe, that

the *Daily Gazetteer* was supported and dispersed by some of those concerned in our Administration; but now, I am convinced, that no Man who has a Concern in our Government has the least Concern in that News Paper. I should be extremely sorry to think that any of them had; for, I should from thence conclude, that we are under the Government either of those who understand nothing of the true Arts of Government, or of those who have a Mind to enslave us; in either of which Cases, I should look upon my Country to be in a most unfortunate Situation.

As I have already shewn, Sir, how necessary it is for the Support and Welfare of Society, to inculcate a Belief in the fundamental Principles of natural Religion, it will, I believe, at first View, appear manifest, that no Magistrate who had the least Knowledge of the true Arts of Government, and no Design against the Liberties of the People, would countenance, and much less authorize, the Publication of a Letter which must be of the most pernicious Consequence, when it comes to be read by the Weak and Ignorant; especially, if by the Reading of that Letter, they should be induced to peruse the Book or Pamphlet therein recommended; for tho' that Pamphlet may be easily dissected, and fully answered, by those who have accustomed themselves to an abstract Way of Reasoning, yet, to many, it may be a Stumbling-block, and may seem as demonstrative as it did to the Author of this Letter, whom I must look on as a *weak Philosopher*, tho' he ranks himself among the *able Ministers of the Word of Truth*.

Indeed, if we were under the Government of Magistrates who had Designs against the Liberties of our

Country, which, I am sure, is far from being the Case, their Countenancing the Publication of this Letter, would be a Testimony, not of their Weakness, but their Wickedness; for it must be granted, Sir, that the Publication of such a Letter, would contribute greatly towards the Accomplishment of their Design; and therefore we may suppose, that such Magistrates would not only Countenance, but secretly authorize the Publication. Let us consider, Sir, that Mankind, in all their Resolutions and Actions, are governed either by Principle, or by some selfish View. While the Members of a Society are governed by Principle, they have a Regard for the Good of their Society, and have a Fellow-feeling for the Sufferings of one another; they have a Regard for Posterity, and will unite, at the Expence of their present Happiness and Ease, against any Attempt that may be made for rendering their Posterity unhappy. While this continues to be the Case, it is impossible to enslave the People, because there are but few will join in the Attempt, and the People, upon the first Alarm, will certainly unite, and hazard both their Lives and Fortunes for the Preservation of their Liberties. But when the Members of a Society in general begin to be directed by selfish Views only, it is easy for those who have got Power into their Hands, to collect and form a great Party of Men who will join with them in every Thing, for the Sake of satisfying their present Appetites; and this Party may the more easily succeed in their Design, because the rest of the People being regardless of their Country, as well as their Posterity, most of them will chuse a little present Happiness and Ease, rather than risk their Lives and Fortunes for the Relief of their Coun-

Country, or the Happiness of their Posterity: Nay, most of them, while they have any of the Comforts of Life left, will tamely hug themselves in the Enjoyment of what they have left, and endeavour to forget those which have been taken A from them by the most unjust Oppression, especially if that Oppression has been directed against the People in general, and not against any particular Man.

From hence we may see, Sir, that those who have any Designs against the Liberties of their Country, must first begin with endeavouring to root out of the Minds of the People, all those Principles by which the Resolutions and Actions of Men ought to be directed; and for this Purpose, they cannot take a more effectual Method, than that of rendering doubtful the first Principles of natural Religion; for when a Man once begins to doubt of the Being of a God, and of a future State, he naturally begins to think that his sole View in Life ought to be, to gratify his present Appetites. For this End he will stick at no Villany he can safely perpetrate; and as he has no Expectation beyond the Grave, he will meanly submit to hold Life upon any Terms, rather than risk it in any Attempt for the Relief of his Country, or the Preservation of his Friend.

This Doctrine, Sir, is in itself so evident, that it stands in no Need of being supported by Examples from History. If it did, I could furnish you with a great many. The Romans lost all Regard for Religion, especially that which was established among them, before they lost their Liberties; and *Julius Cæsar* was, we are told, a Friend and Companion to those who were in his Time the most abandoned and profligate of his Countrymen. I could make

the same Observation of many others who have had Designs against the Liberties of their Country; and in all arbitrary Monarchies we may observe, that they endeavour to destroy all true Religion, by setting up some ridiculous Superstition in its Room, which is always cook'd up as artfully as they can, for the Support of Ignorance and arbitrary Power. It is therefore as much the Business of those, who are real Friends to Liberty, to inculcate the Principles of true Religion, and discourage Atheism, whether in the Dress of a Materialist, a Fatalist, or a Predestinarian, as it is their Business to oppose the Introduction of any ridiculous and slavish Superstition; and if in a free Country the ruling Magistrates should begin to countenance either the one or the other, it is high Time for the People to look about them; for they may depend on it, that such Magistrates are ignorant of the Part they ought to act, or resolved to act a Part, which no Magistrate ought to be allowed, with Impunity, to attempt.

From what I have said, Sir, I hope no Gentleman will suppose, that I am a Friend to Persecution, or an Enemy to Liberty of Conscience. The three fundamental Points of natural Religion, are the only speculative Opinions I, at present, contend for; and, even as to them, I would not have any Man compelled, by the Fear of Punishment or the Hope of Reward, to make a publick Profession of his Belief in them; but, as a Belief in them, so evidently tends to promote the Good of Mankind and the Happiness of every Society, if a Man has any Doubt about all, or either of them, or thinks he has found any new Argument against them, I think he ought not to be allowed

indulge his Vanity, by printing and publishing to the World, either his Doubts or his Arguments; for no Man, I hope, will pretend, that his Conscience obliges him to persuade the rest of Mankind, that neither he, nor they, have any Conscience at all. Nor should I think even this Restraint necessary, if all Men had Capacity and Leisure sufficient for examining into the Bottom of this Dispute; but, as few Men have Time, and still fewer have a sufficient Capacity for this Purpose, the metaphysical Sophistry usually made use of by those who take the wrong Side in this Question, may puzzle the Head and unfix the Belief of a Person who has not been accustomed to an abstract Way of Reasoning, or has not a Capacity sufficient for distinguishing between solid Argument and artful Sophism; and therefore, tho' I think no Government or publick Magistrate, ought to pry into the private Conversations or Correspondence of Men upon this or any other Subject whatever, yet, I think, no honest and wise Government will allow any Thing to be published with Impunity, that was wrote with a professed Design to make Men doubt of the Being of a God, of the Immortality of the Soul, or of a future State of Happiness or Misery, dependent upon their good or bad Actions in this Life.

With respect to these three Principles, Sir, Liberty of Conscience can give no Man a Pretence for opposing them, or for endeavouring to render them doubtful; and, even with respect to the other Principles of Religion, natural or established, I am afraid Liberty of Conscience is a Pretence too often made use of for very bad Purposes. As no false Opinion, or ridiculous Superstition ought to be established by the

Laws of any Country, no Man ought to be punished for endeavouring to vindicate the Truth, against the false Opinions or ridiculous Superstitions which the Ignorance or Madness of former Ages has introduced, especially if they be such Opinions or Superstitions as are of pernicious Consequence to the Well-being of Society; but, we are not from hence to conclude, that every Man that pleases shall have a Liberty to set himself up as a publick Teacher; and, for that Purpose, to convocate unlawful Assemblies of the People; for, by such Means, the People are not only drawn away from their Industry, but the most absurd and enthusiastical Opinions, may be spread among the Vulgar and Ignorant, which it is the Duty of the Magistrate to prevent, by all the prudent Means he can think of. As to the Duty of the Magistrate in this Case, I hope the Example of the *Romans*, when they were in their most perfect State of Virtue, Wisdom, and Liberty, will be admitted as a good Precedent. During the 2d *Punic* War, and about the 540th Year of that City, their Historians tell us, that a new Sort of Priests and Prophets began to spread new Religions, and new Ceremonies among the Vulgar and Ignorant. These Priests and Prophets, without doubt, pretended Conscience, and perhaps, a divine Authority for the Superstitions they were endeavouring to propagate. What did this wise People upon that Occasion? The Senate severely reprimanded the inferior Magistrates, whose Business it was, for not having put a Stop to these Irregularities; and when they found the inferior Magistrates could not easily prevent them, they recommended the Care of it to the *Prætor* of the City, who thereupon made an Edict in these

these Words, *Ut quicumque Libros Vaticinos, precationesque, aut artem Sacrificandi conscriptam haberet, eos Libros omnes Literasque ad se ante Kalendas Apriles Deferret: Neu quis in Publico sacrove Loco, novo aut externo Ritu Sacrificaret.*

This shews, Sir, that a Liberty of Conscience, absolutely unbounded, is far from being necessary or convenient even in a State of the most absolute Freedom; but it is no easy Matter to settle just Bounds to this Liberty: I believe it can hardly be done by a standing Law, and therefore, in every Society, it must in a great Measure, be left to the Wisdom of the Administration. When a Society happens to be under prudent and diligent Magistrates, they will keep this Liberty within just Bounds; but when it happens to be under negligent or ignorant Magistrates, this Liberty will either be allowed to deviate into Licentiousness, or the Magistrates by mistaking Liberty for Licentiousness, will deviate into Oppression and Persecution.

When it evidently appears, Sir, that a Man is sincerely directed by his Conscience, and no Way touched in the Head, he ought to meet with great Indulgence; but when it appears that a Man is touched in the Head, and affected with some Sort of enthusiastical Madness, as the Distemper is certainly infectious, and may have much worse Effects upon some others, than it has upon him, out of pure Charity for the People, some Sort of Care ought to be taken to prevent his being able to communicate his Distemper. But when it evidently appears, that a Fellow sets himself up as a new Sort of Teacher, for the mere Sake of Lucre, and makes a Trade, or rather a Farce of Religion, it is a heinous Crime

in any Magistrate to encourage such a Fellow, it is a most egregious Solecism in Politicks to give him any Indulgence; he ought to be made liable to those Punishments that by our Laws are inflicted upon Conjurors and Fortune-Tellers. Such a Fellow will never surely be countenanced or encouraged by any Government, or by any Magistrate, unless that Magistrate has a Mind to render Religion itself contemptible; and, I am sure, no Magistrate that has such a Design, can have any Regard to the Happiness of Mankind or his Country. On the contrary, when a free Country happens to have the Misfortune to be under the Rule of such a Magistrate, I shall always suspect he has Designs against the Liberties of his Country; and that he has a Mind to destroy all Regard to Principles of every Kind, in order to increase the Number, and the Pliancy of his Tools, and to render the People less obstinate, and less unanimous, in the Defence of their Liberties.

After *M. Atilius* had thus finished what he had to say upon this Subject, we had some Discourse upon the Nature and Tendency of this Letter, and upon the Design of publishing it in the *Gazetteer*; but as no Gentleman would undertake to defend or excuse either the Letter, or the Publication of it, we had no Debate upon the Subject.

[This JOURNAL to be continued in our next.]

If the Gentleman at Kingston, will be pleas'd to inform us how we may direct to him, we shall endeavour to give him Satisfaction.

The TRIALS of the Riotous WEAVERS,
&c. at MELKSHAM, continued from p.
 188.

JOHN CRABB, indicted for riotously
 and feloniously, with Force of Arms,
 breaking and entering the House of *Henry*
Coulthurst, of *Melksham* in the County of
Wilts, Clothier, and (with others) demolish-
 ing his House, and destroying large Quantities
 of Wool, Yarn, and Utensils belonging to the
 manufacturing of Cloth, to a considerable
 Value.

To which he pleaded *Not Guilty*.

Samel Stevens sworn an Evidence.

Stevens. On the 28th of last November, I
 saw the Prisoner at the Bar coming over the
 Bridge at *Melksham*, with Colours on a Stick;
 when he came within a little Distance of
 Mr. *Coulthurst*'s House, he got upon a Dung-
 mixon, and said these Words, 'About thirty
 or forty of ye come after me, and let the
 'rest stand upon the Bridge;' and waving his
 Colours round, 'Come on, brave Boys, says
 he: Damn ye, are ye come hither and left
 your Hearts behind you?' and then the Pri-
 soner, striking at the Door of Mr. *Coulthurst*'s
 House and finding it fast, broke the Win-
 dows, and entered in, and the rest of the
 Mob followed.

John Inchmore sworn.

Inchmore. I saw *John Crabb*, the Prisoner
 at the Bar, come over *Melksham* Bridge on the
 28th of November, with a Stick in his Hand,
 and a blue Skain on the Stick, and cried out,
 'Brave Boys, what are ye come here to do,
 'and leave your Hearts behind you?' with
 that the Mob came to Mr. *Coulthurst*'s Door,
 and broke the Windows, and entered into the
 House.

Richard Harding sworn.

Harding. I saw two or three hundred in
 a Mob, but did not see *Crabb* amongst them,
 nor did I see what the Prisoner did to the
 House: I saw the Mob laying on Mr. *Coul-*
thurst's House with Sticks and Clubs, striking
 at the Walls and Windows, some of the
 Walls beaten down in the lower Part, and
 a Party of them going into the House; and I
 saw some of the Inside of the House beaten
 down, with several Partitions.

Amelia Harford sworn.

Harford. I saw *John Crabb* the Prisoner
 come into *Melksham*, with Abb on a Stick,
 at which I said to him, What, turned from
 a Penny Crippler to a Weaver! for which he
 was going to strike me, but I went into an
 Apothecary's Shop to prevent him. I did not
 particularly observe the Damage done to Mr.
Coulthurst's House.

Elizabeth Nutt sworn.

Counsel. *Elizabeth Nutt*, Was you at *Melk-*
sham the 28th Day of November last?

Nutt. Yes, I was.

Coun. Did you see the Prisoner at the Bar
 there?

Nutt. Yes, I did see him; he came up the
 first Man to the Door of Mr. *Coulthurst*'s
 House, with a long Stick, some of a Chain
 tied on it, and beat the Door, and finding it
 fast, he struck the Window.

Coun. Was he the first Person that struck
 the Window?

Nutt. Yes, and please your Honour, he
 was.

Coun. What follow'd on his breaking the
 Window?

Nutt. He broke the Window to Pieces.

Coun. What were the Bars of the Window
 made of.

Nutt. Made of Wood, which he broke.

Coun. Were there any Partitions to the
 Window?

Nutt. Yes, the Munions.

Coun. What do you mean by Munions?
 Look up to that Window [pointing to a Win-
 dow in Court] and explain it to us?

Nutt. That Post between the Glass that
 parts the Window.

Coun. These they broke, did they not?

Nutt. Yes.

Coun. Was the Prisoner at the Bar the first
 Man you saw go in?

Nutt. I am not certain he was the first,
 but I saw him go in.

Coun. What Number was there in the
 House?

Nutt. I believe there were upwards of
 twenty.

Coun. What followed thereupon?

Nutt. They threw Abb, and Chain, and
 Cloth out of the Window; they staid above
 an Hour in the House; they said they were
 sent to beat down the House flat to the
 Ground before they went hence, or else they
 must not go home; and if they met with
 Mr. *Coulthurst*, they would cut him in Quar-
 ters, and pull out his Heart, and fry it on a
 Gridiron, and hang his Quarters on a Tree.

Coun. Was you a Servant to Mr. *Coulthurst*?

Nutt. Yes, and in the House at that Time.
 I only observed what was done the first Day
 of the Riot, when the Windows were broken
 down, and the several Partitions of the
 Rooms, which were made of Lath and Plaif-
 ter; and what Household Goods they could lay
 Hands on they broke and destroy'd: The
 Wainscot that parted the Kitchen and the
 Workhouse was also beat down. I saw only
 what was done the first Day, and in the
 lower Rooms.

Court. Prisoner, Now is your Time to
 make your Defence: If you have any Thing
 to say for yourself, or any Witness to call, the
 Court is ready to hear them.

Prisoner. Please your Honour, my Lord,
 On the 28th Day of November, after the

G g

Mob

Mob was dispersed, the Gentlemen of *Melksham* gave away Beer to the Mob, and I had got a little Beer in my Head, and going along the Streets, a great Company came out of *Mr. Coulthurst's* House, and called me in; and after that they would have stuffed Things into my Pocket, and would have forced me to keep them, and afterwards they gave me a considerable Quantity of Brandy, and having taken me up, they carried me before a Justice of the Peace, and I being in Drink, had no room to make any Defence for myself. I have worked for *Mr. Coulthurst*, and he obliged me to take Truck; he obliged me to go to an Alehouse and buy Beer at 4 Pence a Quart which was not worth one Penny, and to take Tobacco at sixteen Pence a Pound, that was not worth ten Pence; Bread at six Pence a Loaf which was not worth 4 Pence; and Woollen and Linen Goods at the same excessive Rates.

Court. If he obliged you to take Truck, why did you not complain of it?

Prisoner. In the first Place, if we made any Appeal about it, the Clothiers would join one and all, and prevent our having any Business: They are all got into such a Combination together as to pinch the Poor, and it has been so many Years; we are the miserablest Objects on the Earth; we are obliged to stir in Behalf of ourselves, or else be trodden down dead; this is as true as God is in Heaven.

Court. In this Case you might have had Relief by applying to a Justice of the Peace; let there be what Combination soever among the Clothiers, they could not hurt you; they are obliged to pay by ready Money and not in Truck. Have you any Witness to call, they will be heard?

Prisoner. I have Witness in the Court to prove I have taken Truck of *Mr. Coulthurst*.

Court. I think that is not a Justification for your committing those Outrages. You have now pleaded not Guilty, and the Question is, whether you was there or not, and whether you did any Action in the Riot at *Mr. Coulthurst's*?

Prisoner. My Lord, it is only thro' Malice; I declare that they have taken false Oaths against me, and did it on Purpose to take away my Life.

Court. You said before that you was there, but it was occasioned by your being drunk; if you were drunk that is no Excuse for your Actions. If you have any Witness to call, you may?

Prisoner. I have not been provided for my Trial.

Court. You have had Notice of it: This is the 5th Day of the Assizes, you might have been provided to have made what Defence you thought proper.

Prisoner. I had several Witnesses but they could not come. I have no Witness here; several of them being ill could not be here.

Mr. Coulthurst. My Lord, permit me to speak. I declare that this *John Crabb* never worked for me in his Life; and I never paid any of my Servants in Truck, but in ready Money, according as they deserved; and never desired them to take one Penny in Goods.

Court. We are sufficiently satisfied as to this Affair.

Then the Evidence was summed up to the Jury, who brought in their Verdict Guilty. Death.

B *JOHN BEZER*, Indicted for riotously and feloniously assembling with several others at *Melksham*, on the 29th Day of November last, and then and there aiding and assisting, with Force of Arms, in the pulling down and demolishing several Houses belonging to *Henry Coulthurst*, of *Melksham* aforesaid.

To which he pleaded Not Guilty.

William Salter sworn.

William Salter. I saw the Prisoner at the Bar go into one of *Mr. Coulthurst's* new Houses, in which *Samuel Stevens* liv'd, with a great Stick in his Hand, and beat some of the Free-stone Windows down; and I saw him with several of the Rioters, I believe about 20 or 30 of them, about the House, who did considerable Damage; they broke the Front of the House to Pieces.

Counsel. What did they do in the Inner-part of the House?

Salter. They broke down the several Partitions of the Rooms, some of which were made of Lath and Lime, others of Wood.

Coun. What Time of the Day was it you saw this done?

Salter. About one or two of the Clock in the Afternoon, on the 29th of November.

Anne Salter sworn.

Anne Salter. I saw the Prisoner at the Bar at *Melksham* on the 29th Day of November, and he called to the Mob, and said, Will you go on? and afterwards he struck at *Mr. Coulthurst's* Windows, but I did not see him do any Thing to *Stevens's* House.

Coun. You saw him with the Mob?

Salter. Yes, I did, and heard him bid them go on; and after they had been at the *Shearshop*, they went to one of the new Houses, and broke the Walls, and beat the Windows to Pieces, but did not see them do any Thing to *Stevens's* House.

Coun. Did you see *Stevens's* House afterwards? and what did you observe had been done there?

Salter. I saw the Tons pulled down, and three Parts of the Tiles punched off, the Inside of the Rooms, the Doors, with the Partitions beat to Pieces, and the Windows

Framed

TRIALS of the RIOTERS at MELKSHAM. 219

Frames as well as Glafs, torn afunder and broke to Pieces.

Robert Stratton sworn.

Robert Stratton. I faw the Prifoner at the Bar at *Melksham* with the Mob, on the 29th Day of *November*; he had a Stick in his Hand, and a freſh-ground Hatchet under his Coat.

Court. How many do you think the Mob might be in Number, that was there then?

Stratton. I believe there might be 4 or 500 of them, paſſing by and at *Mr. Coultsburſt's* Houſe, and this *Bezer* was with them, and had a new-ground Hatchet under his Coat.

Court. Prifoner, Now is your Time to make your Defence, or to produce your Witneſſes, if you have any to call.

Prifoner. Pleaſe you my Lord, I am not guilty of the Faſts I am accuſed of, they have ſworn falſely againſt me.—I was, my Lord, a Servant to one *Mr. Tbreder* at *Sene*, and hearing the Mob was riſen at *Melksham*, my Maſter ſent his Servants to bring home the Work from the Looms; I was employed to carry home ſome of the Work, and I did not come home until ſome Time in the Evening, and ſaw no more of the Affair: I know no more of the Things charged on me than the Child unborn.

Court. Prifoner, Where was that you ſay you was?

Prifoner. At *Sene*, two Miles diſtant from *Melksham*. I ſaw none of the Mob, I was on Duty carrying home *Mr. Tbreder's* Work on the Day of the Riot, the firſt Day that they entered *Melksham*, *November 28*.

Court. You was not charged this Day with being with the Rioters, but on the ſecond Day; how come you to be there then?

Prifoner. My Lord, the next Day we walked the Streets, being off of our Work, and, having nothing to do, was looking on the Damage they had done, but never did any Thing to it.

Court. Who was with you?

Prifoner. There was one *John May*, a Shopmate of mine.

Court. Is he here?

Prifoner. He is not here, my Lord, I am a poor Man and not able to bear his Expences: We are all poor People, and I know not any one to ſpeak for me.

Court. You have no Witneſs?

Prifoner. I don't know that I have.

Court. Then you have no Witneſs to give us an Account how you behaved yourſelf, and that you only came to ſee what was done there, and did not act or aſſiſt in the demolishing any Houſe.

Prifoner. My Lord, I did not; where I liv'd was at ſome Diſtance from it: I went thither to carry home my Maſter's Work.

Court. That you ſay you did on the 28th of *November*, but you ſay you was there on the next Day.

Prifoner. Yes, my Lord, *Melksham* is my native Town, and as my Work was thrown by, we went to ſee the Ruin there, but not to do harm; and, my Lord, after the Spoil was over I returned home, and worked in Peace and Quiet.

Court. You have no Witneſs?

Prifoner. *Mr. Tbreder* is in Court, and can affirm what I ſay.

Mr. Tbreder called, and ſworn.

Prifoner. *Mr. Tbreder*, did we not go to bring home your Work from *Melksham*? I was Servant then to *John Emmet*.

Mr. Tbreder. My Lord, as to the Affair he calls me to ſpeak about, I know nothing of it. But as he has called on me, I will give ſome Account of him concerning what I know of him. This Man did Work for me ſor ſome Time, as a Servant of mine; and he came to me one Day to let me know his Maſter *John Emmet* was arreſted, and deſired I would lend his Maſter a Crown; accordingly he borrowed a Crown of me in his Maſter's Name, and after that he went to a publick Houſe, a Quarter of a Mile from us, and there he got to gaming as I was informed; and then in the Evening he came to me, and told me his Maſter was yet under Arreſt, and that he had been backward and forward to *Mr. Lock* at the *Devizes*, in order to get his Maſter diſcharg'd, and that he was weary in ſo doing, but his Maſter was an honeſt Man. I pity'd his Maſter, and enquired where he was; he told me at the *Green Man*, a publick Houſe a Quarter of a Mile from us; I ſaid I would go and talk with him, and clear him if it was no great Sum. I went thither, and he told me a canting Story all the Way; when I came to the Houſe, I asked whether *John Emmet* was there; the People of the Houſe replied he was not there, nor had not been there; I asked whether his Attorney was there, and they ſaid, no, nor had not been there. This, my Lord, is what I know of him.

Court. Do you know any Thing of his bringing home Work for you, *November 28*?

Mr. Tbreder. No, my Lord, I don't know any Thing of the Matter: He has not work'd for me a conſiderable Time; for his ſerving me this vile Trick, I ordered he ſhould not work for me any more.

Court. Do you know where the Prifoner at the Bar was the 28th of *November* laſt.

Mr. Tbreder. No, my Lord.

Court. You ſay you did not know where the Prifoner was on the 28th of *November*, did you ſee him on the 29th?

Mr. Tbreder. No, I did not.

Prifoner. I own I was overtaken in Liquor then.

Mr. Tbreder. I have nothing more to ſay againſt or for you; I have ſpoken nothing but the Truth.

G E 2

Court.

220 TRIALS of the RIOTERS at MELKSHAM.

Court. Prisoner, Have you any more Witnesses to call?

Prisoner. No.

Then the Evidence was summed up to the Jury, who brought in their Verdict Guilty. Death.

E *EDWARD DAVIS*, Indicted for being with a riotous and tumultuous Assembly at Melksham, on the 29th Day of November; and then and there aiding and assisting, with Force of Arms, in the pulling down and demolishing an Out-house (or Shear-shop) belonging to Henry Coulthurst in Melksham aforesaid, and destroying several Utensils and Goods in the same, belonging to the Woollen Manufacture.

To which Indictment he pleaded *Not Guilty*.

Anne Church sworn an Evidence.

Counsel. *Anne Church*, Do you know the Prisoner at the Bar?

Church. Yes, Sir.

Coun. What Trade or Occupation does he follow?

Church. He is a Weaver.

Coun. Did you see the Prisoner at the Bar at Melksham on the 29th Day of November, at the Time when the Rioters were there?

Church. Yes, please your Honour, I saw him on a Window of Mr. Coulthurst's Shear-shop.

Coun. What did you see him do there?

Church. I saw him beating off the Tiles from the Shop.

Coun. Was this Shop adjoining to Mr. Coulthurst's Mansion or Dwelling-house?

Church. No, Sir, It stood at some Distance from it, in the Road Way going to Cheppenharn near Binegar.

Coun. What more did he do there, besides punching off the Tiles?

Church. I heard him say that if the rest of the Company would go with him, he would help to pull down the rest of Mr. Coulthurst's Houses.

Coun. What might you observe the Mob do there?

Church. I saw them beat the Windows to Pieces, and the Doors open; and I saw them throw out the Shearing Tools.

Coun. How many of these Persons might there be in the Shear-shop?

Church. I believe there were above 20 in the Shear-shop.

Anne Salter sworn.

Coun. *Anne Salter*, Do you know the Shear-shop of Mr. Coulthurst, and where it stands?

Salter. Yes, please your Honour, it stands on the Corner of the Road going to Binegar.

Coun. I suppose it stands at some Distance from Mr. Coulthurst's Mansion-house; what Distance may it be?

Salter. There are two Gardens between Mr. Coulthurst's Dwelling-house and this Shear-

shop, one of which belongs to Mr. Coulthurst, and the other to Mr. Sanger.

Coun. Did you see the Prisoner at the Bar there with the Rioters on the 29th of November last?

Salter. Yes, Sir, I did.

Coun. Pray give an Account what you saw him and the Rioters do there?

Salter. I saw them punch out a considerable Number of the Tiles; and I saw the Prisoner at the Bar punch out eight or ten with a long Pole which he had in his Hand.

Coun. What did you see the Mob in general farther do then?

Salter. I saw them bring out the Broad Cloths, and the Shearing Tools, Soap, Oil, and the Things the Men worked on; I saw two Windows thrown out, Frames and Glass all together.

Mr. Taylor sworn.

Coun. Mr. Taylor, be pleased to give us some Account of this Shear-shop belonging to Mr. Coulthurst.

Mr. Taylor. This Shop was Mr. Coulthurst's Shear-shop, used for the Dressing of his Cloth, he had there working Tools to the Value of more than 200 Pounds which was thrown out by the Mob. This Shop joins with a Tenement belonging to Mr. Coulthurst.

Coun. Do Mr. Coulthurst's Servants work in this Shop?

Mr. Taylor. Yes, Sir, in this Shop Mr. Coulthurst puts several Things belonging to the Woollen Manufacture, and there his Servants usually Work in dressing his Cloth.

Coun. Is there any Door or Way of Communication from the Shop to the Tenement, with which it is joined? and what Distance is the Shop from Mr. Coulthurst's Mansion-house?

Mr. Taylor. There is no Way of Communication between the Shop and the Tenement but from the Street, the Door of the Shop being towards the Street; and, I think, the Distance from Mr. Coulthurst's House to the Shear-shop is about 200 Yards the Street Way, which is the usual Way of passing from the House to the Shop.

Court. I am in some Doubt whether this Shear-shop is to be considered as an Out-house, or a Part of Mr. Coulthurst's Mansion-house. Let Mr. Coulthurst be examined as to this Affair.

Coun. Mr. Coulthurst, What Use is this Shop for?

Mr. Coulthurst. I use it for the Dressing my Cloth. I make use of it for my Trade in several Respects, in scribbling and picking Wool, and for shearing Cloth; and I keep Wool and Yarn there sometimes to a vast Quantity; I have very frequent Cloth and Woollen Goods carried from my House to be manufactured there, and when manufactured returned to my House again.

Court. Is there any Door from the Shop to any other Tenement?

Mr. Coulthurst. No, Sir, it is joined to another House, but there is no Door or Way of Communication from the Shop to the House, but by the Street.

Court. How far distant is the Shop from your Mansion-house.

Mr. Coulthurst. I take it to be above 100 Yards the nearest Way; there is a Way I take to go to it, for my own Use, through the Backside, and I believe it is full that Distance or more.

Court. Mr. Coulthurst, Did you pay your Servants in Truck?

Mr. Coulthurst. My Lord, I never paid any of my Servants in Truck, nor ever desired they should be paid but with ready Money for their Work.

Here a Question in Law arising, whether the said Shear-shop was to be considered as an Out-house, or a Part of Mr. Coulthurst's Mansion-house, it was for some debated by the Counsel in Court, and several Enquiries made into former Cases in Law, but remaining still undetermined, by the Direction of the Court it was found a Bill special.

Several others were tried, and fined 40s. each, to be imprisoned a Year, and to find Security for 3 Years. (See p. 153.)

We think it needless, after having given our Readers the foregoing Trials, together with that in last Month, to insert the particular Trials of these last mentioned; and therefore shall conclude with the following, viz.

The SPEECH delivered by the JUDGE at the Condemnation of those who were capitally convicted.

YOU, the Prisoners at the Bar, have been Indicted and Convicted of such Offences, which, when you committed them, you very well knew, the Law would punish with Death. You have been convicted on full and clear Evidence; and your Offences are of such a Nature, that if Examples are not made by punishing, in the strictest Manner, Offences of this Kind, the Liberties and Properties of the Subject must be very uncertain, and very precarious. Some of your Offences are of that Kind, that they are very near related to High Treason; and are attended with such Consequences, that the Rights and Properties of the People that live in this Country can never be safe, if you should escape unpunish'd. 'Tis necessary for Example sake, that you should suffer for the many Injuries that have been done; which you are not able otherwise to repair; and 'tis to deter others from committing the like Offences. I have very little more to say to you, than to desire you, that you would not

flatter yourselves with the Hopes of Life; such Hopes will be in vain, and to no Purpose: You must suffer the Punishment of the Law for the Offences you have committed. I hope you will make the best Use of the Time you have to live, by a sincere and hearty Repentance for the Crimes you have committed; not only for those of which you are now convicted, but also for all the Sins of your past Lives.—It is very certain, not to be doubted, that you have been drawn into those Offences by an idle and dissolute Life; by not regarding the Laws, and not observing your Duty to God. He is a merciful God, and if you truly and sincerely repent, I hope he will forgive all your Sins in the next World.—I need not repeat what I said to you before, that you should employ your remaining Time in the best Manner you can. You will have good Assistance, and I hope you will heartily repent.

Nothing remains for me now, but to pronounce the Judgment of the Law on you; and it is this, That you be carried hence to the Place from whence you came, and from thence to the Place of Execution, and there severally to be hanged by the Neck, until you are dead. The Lord have Mercy on your Souls.

They were accordingly executed on April 2. (see p. 203.)

Craftsman, April 23. N^o 668.

EXTRACTS from several Political Plays, with OBSERVATIONS.

S I R,

ONE of the celebrated Authors of the *Tatler* hath remark'd, that our best Comedies are good Representations of the Manners of the Age, in which they were written. To this Observation I will add, that in our best Tragedies we may trace the Politicks of the publick Administration, at the Time, when they were brought upon the Stage.

When Spain had attain'd the most formidable Degree of Power, as well as an insupportable Spirit of Insolence, the Reduction of that Monarchy, in both these Particulars, was the glorious Work of England, during the prudent Administration of *Burleigh*, under the successful Reign of *Q. Elizabeth*; at which Time, we find our immortal *Shakespeare* animating the People with a Spirit

Spirit equal to so great an Undertaking, in his famous Play of *Henry the Fifth*; where he hath, with great Strength of Poetry, presented to their View the former Triumphs of their Ancestors over *France*.

Nor was our publick-spirited Bard A less assiduous in applauding that Love for universal Liberty, which our Nation then shew'd, by assisting the United Provinces, in their brave Struggle to throw off the bloody Shackles of *Philip*, King of *Spain*, and erect themselves into one independent Republick. How greatly *Shakespear* admir'd, how zealously he propagated the noble Principles, on which these injured People acted, when they drew their Swords against that Tyrant, with invincible Resolution, either to free themselves, or die, may be seen by the elevated Sentiments, he hath put into the Mouths of *Brutus* and *Cassius*, throughout his admirable Tragedy of *Julius Cæsar*.

At the Time, when *William*, Prince of *Orange*, was presented with the Crown of *England*, by the Gratitude of the People, whom he deliver'd from impending Slavery, the Ambition of *France* was as dangerous to the Liberties of *Europe*, as the Power of *Spain* had been, in the Reign above-mentioned. It was therefore a laudable Ambition in our new-elected King, whom we had justly dignify'd with the Title of glorious Deliverer, to humble the House of *Bourbon*, and fight the Cause of Mankind against that treacherous Monarch; who never made War but with a View to enslave, nor ever made Peace but with an Intent to betray; whose savage Cruelties to the *Germans* in the *Palatinate*, and to the *Dutch* at *Swammerdam*, not to mention his Inhumanities against his own Protestant Subjects, leaves him as little Pretension to the Character of a polite Prince, as the repeated Defeats, his Armies afterwards received from the Duke of *Marlborough*, did to that

of a great Conqueror; tho' of both these Titles he was most ridiculously vain.

And whilst the British King was carrying on this generous Undertaking, Mr. *Rowe* brought his Tragedy, call'd *Tamerlane*, on the Stage; one of the finest Pieces of Poetry, that ever did Honour to the English Language. It was written with the manifest View of celebrating the glorious Opposition, *England* was then making in Behalf of all *Europe*, against the Designs of *France*; and in that Character, which gives Name to the Play, we see the finest Panegyrick bestow'd upon *K. William*, that can be given to any Prince.

Well hath our holy *Alba* mark'd him out
The scourge of lawless pride, and dire ambition,

The great avenger of the groaning world.

No lust of rule, the common vice of kings,
No factious zeal, inspir'd by bot-brain'd pride,
Ill hid beneath religion's specious name,
E'er drew his temperate courage to the field;
But to redress an injur'd people's wrongs;
To save the weak one, from the strong oppressor,
Is all his end of war; and when he draws
The sword, to punish, like relenting heaven,
He seems unwilling to deface his kind.

And tho' the Ferocity of Temper in *Bajazet*, makes his Character not quite so applicable to the French Tyrant, yet the Cruelty, Falshood, Ambition, and all the Crimes, which drew the Sword of *Tamerlane*, are so exactly the same with those of *Louis XIV.* by which he made the British King his irreconcilable Enemy, that I am well assured no Englishman could then hear the following Lines repeated, and not think of the French Monarch with Indignation and Abhorrence.

Thrice by our laws and prophet hath he sworn,
By the world's lord and maker, lasting peace
With our great master, and his royal friend,
The Grecian emperor; as oft regardless
Of plighted faith, with most unkingly baseness,
Hath ta'en th' advantage of their absent arms,
Without a war proclaim'd, or cause pretended,
To waste with fire and sword their fruitful fields;

Like some accursed fiend; who, 'scap'd from

Poisons the balmy air, thro' which he flies;
He blasts the bearded corn, and loaded branches,
The lab'ring hind's best hopes, and marks his
way with ruin.
But see his fate; the mighty *Tamerlane*
Comes, like the proxy of enquiring heav'n,
To hear and to redress.

After *K. William's Death*, the Cause of *Europe* was asserted by *Q. Anne*, with such a Series of Successes, as fill'd the whole World with Admiration. Nor was she less happy in uniting her Subjects at home, than in overthrowing the *Enemies* of Freedom abroad; and we see the excellent Author of *Tamerlane* takes an Opportunity to praise her, on both these Questions, in a Tragedy call'd the *Royal Convert*, during the prosperous Part of her Reign.

Of royal race a *British queen* shall rise,
Great, glorious, pious, fortunate, and wise;
To distant lands she shall extend her fame;
And leave to later times a mighty name:
Tyrants shall fall, and faithless kings shall bleed,
And groaning nations by her arms be free'd;
But chief this happy land her care shall prove,
And find from her a more than mother's love;
From hostile rage she shall preserve it free,
Safe in the compass of the ambient sea;
Tho' fam'd her arms for many a cruel fight,
Yet most in peaceful arts she shall delight,
And her chief glory shall be to unite.
Picts, Saxons, Angles, shall no more be known,
But *Britain* be the noble name alone.
With joy their ancient hate they shall forego,
While discord hides her baleful head below;
Mercy, and truth, and right she shall maintain,
And every blessing croud to grace her reign;
Auspicious heav'n on all her days shall smile,
And with eternal union bless her *British* isle.

But when *this Princess*, towards the Close of her Government, was thought to have made an unhappy Change in her Politicks, and some of her *Ministers*, we find the Panegyrick of the *Stage* turn'd into Satire; and our great *Mr. Addison*, in his incomparable Tragedy of *Cato*, levels the whole Artillery of Eloquence and Poetry against those, who were then thought to be engag'd in bad Designs against their Country.

O *Portius*! is there not some chosen curse,
Some hidden thunder in the stores of heaven,
Red with uncommon wrath, to blast the man,
Who owes his greatness to his country's ruin?

Nay, so far does he carry his Repentment against *this Ministry*, that he seems to advise a *Secession* from the very Place, where such Measures were carrying on. *Cato* speaks thus to his Son *Portius*.

A Let me advise thee to retreat betimes
To thy paternal seat, the *Sabine* field,
Where the great *Censor* toil'd with his own hands,
And all our frugal ancestors were blest
In humble virtues, and a rural life;
There live retir'd; pray for the peace of *Rome*;
Content thyself to be obscurely good.
When vice prevails, and impious men bear sway,
B The post of honour is a private station.

King *Charles II.* seems to have directed all his publick Measures, with one continued Aim at arbitrary Power; and his private Schemes, with the single View of gratifying his debauch'd Inclinations. Whoever peruses the best Tragedies, produc'd in those corrupted Times, cannot help observing them to be full of the strongest Reflexions upon all the Evils, which oppress'd our Country, during the whole Course of that long, inglorious Reign.

D If there are any so much unacquainted with the Character of *this Monarch*, as not to know what little Regard he shew'd to the Honour of the Nation abroad, or the Happiness of his Subjects at home; how meanly he left the Government of his People to those, who either wanted Wisdom to discover, or Virtue to pursue the publick Emolument, whilst himself lay stupidly buried in the Arms of a foreign Mistress, sent over with the infamous Design of drawing him off from the Interest of his Country; they may find a pretty exact Representation of him, together with his Court, in the Earl of *Rochester's* Tragedy of *Valentinian*.

The standing Force, *this Prince* kept up in Time of Peace, under the Title of *Guards*, tho' not numerous, gave at that Time great Uneasiness to all true Lovers of Liberty; and what Sort of Persons he chose to advance in the Army, is finely set forth

forth by *Otway*, in his Tragedy call'd the *Orphan*.

Go to the camp, preferment's noblest mart,
Where *honour* ought to have the fairest play,
You'll find *corruption*, *envy*, *discontent*, and
faction,

Almost in every band—How many men
Have spent their blood in their dear country's
service,

Yet now pine under want; whilst selfish slaves,
That e'en would cut their throats, whom now
they fawn on,

Like *deadly locusts* eat the honey up,
Which *those industrious bees* so hardly toil'd for?

There cannot appear any surer
Token of a Nation's being in the
high Road to *Slavery* and *Ruin*, than
when the *grand Council*, composed
of the *People's Representatives*, have
suffer'd themselves to be corrupted
by the *Court*, with the *Treasure of
the Publick*; when, instead of exert-
ing themselves, like the *Guardians
of Liberty*, and *Fathers of their Coun-
try*, they sit only watchful how they
shall best take Advantage from any
publick Grievance, in order to add
something either to the *Power*, or
Revenue of the Crown; for this,
tho' a slow, is a most infallible Me-
thod of destroying *publick Liberty*, as
it must at last establish *Tyranny by
Law*; and that the *English Nation*
were going on, in this melancholy
Way, during some Part of the Reign
now under Consideration, let the fa-
mous *Pensionary Parliament* declare.

Another sure Sign that the Jaws
of *arbitrary Power* are opening to de-
vour us, is when any of our *Courts
of Justice* appear to be influenc'd
by the *Ministry* to pervert the *Law*,
in order to crush the *Friends of Li-
berty*, whose Love for their *Country*
will not suffer them to remain in
Silence, when they behold an *evil
Minister* leading the People into ir-
retrievable Ruin; and that this was
then also the Case, appears too evi-
dently from the *State Trials*.—To
both these Grievances Mr. *Otway*
alludes in many of the finest Passa-
ges of his *Venice preserv'd*; particu-
larly in the following ones.

————— To see our *senators*

Cheat the deluded people with a shew
Of liberty, which yet they ne'er must taste of;
They say by *them* our hands are free from fetters,
Yet whom they please they lay in *basest bonds*,
Bring whom they please to infamy and scorn,
Drive us, like wrecks, down the rough tide of
power;

A Whilst no hold's left to save us from destruction,
All, that bear this, are *villains*, and I one,
Not to rouse up, at the great call of nature,
To check the growth of these *domestick spoilers*,
Who make us *slaves*, and tell us 'tis our *charter*,

Again, in the same Play.

We've neither *safety*, *unity*, nor *peace*;
B For the foundation's lost of *publick good*;
Justice is lame, as well as blind, amongst us;
The *laws* corrupted to their end, who make
them,

Serve but as instruments to some new tyranny,
That every day starts up t'enslave us deeper.

To recite every Passage in *Fletcher*,
Otway, *Lee*, or *Dryden*, which point
C at some particular Enormities of the
Government, under which they wrote,
would be endless; and therefore I
shall finish my Quotations with ob-
serving, that whoever desires to be-
hold an *abject Council*, a *corrupted
Parliament*, and an *ignorant*, as well
D as a *wicked Administration*, painted
in one Piece, let them peruse the
following admirable Picture, as drawn
by *Dryden*, in the *Spanish Fryar*.

A council form'd of such as dare not speak, &c.
See the whole Passage from *Common Sense*,
in our last, p. 193. Col. 1.

E From what hath been said, I think
any sincere Friend of our *present ex-
cellent Administration*, cannot help se-
cretly lamenting the late Act, for
Licensing the Stage; for as it obliges
our *dramatick Writers* to submit their
Works, in a Manner, that must be
F very disgustful to all Authors of Ge-
nius, or Spirit, it will very probably
induce them to employ their Abili-
ties, in some other Branch of Lite-
rature; so that by these Means, the
glorious Measures of the *present Go-
vernment* may fail of being celebrated
G upon the Stage, with all the Pomp
of Poetry, which such consummate *Wit-
dom* and *publick Fidelity* deserve.

Common Sense, May. 5. N^o 118.

The People's Regard to MAGISTRACY, and what occasions their Contempt of it.

S I R,

IT is an Imputation most injurious to Mankind, that their natural Disposition is apt to incline them to a Distrust, and Dislike of those who govern them. I am satisfy'd the contrary is so evident, that it has been always easy to discern in People a Kind of Bigotry, (if I may use the Expression) in Favour of such as have been plac'd in Power over them, which could not, where they have not met with more than ordinary ill Usage, be got the better of.

I know of few Histories into which I have ever look'd, that have not furnish'd me with sufficient Grounds to confirm me in my Opinion. And were I to look back into our own History, and that, perhaps, not very far, I should not want Examples of the Partiality People entertain towards those in the highest Stations, which has inclin'd them to acquiesce in the worst Treatment, even when they have been most visibly sensible of it: But as Instances of this Kind may, to some, appear invidious, I will not particularize any here.

I shall therefore consider a little the Behaviour of the *Romans*. — Whoever will, with Accuracy, observe their Conduct, will find, that tho' they were strenuous and violent in asserting their Liberty against a most oppressive, insolent, and tyrannical Nobility, yet, as their Complaints were for the most Part just, and their Desires reasonable for a free and deserving People, they always shew'd the greatest Moderation in the Use they made of any Acquisition they gain'd from the

Nobility in Security of their Liberty. Which makes *Livy* (tho' most evidently a Favourer of the Patri- cians) say, on a very extraordinary Example of this Nature, *Hanc modestiam æquitatemque & altitudinem a-*

nimi, ubi nunc in uno inveneris, quæ tunc Populi universi fuit?

Nor could those Tumults which happen'd at *Rome* (as *Machiavel* well observes) be reasonably call'd disorderly, and irregular, which produc'd so many Examples of all Sorts of Virtue, and the Success of which, whoever examines, will not find they occasion'd any Laws or Violence to the Prejudice of the common Interest, but the contrary. Nor could they be said to be bloody or seditious who, in above 300 Years Time, from the Expulsion of their Kings, amongst all their Heats and Animosities, sent not above 8 or 10 Persons into Banishment, executed very few, and condemned not many to any Pecuniary Mulct.*

It was under the Tyranny of their Kings, and afterwards in the abject State they were reduc'd to by their Emperors, that Riot, Licentiousness, and Rapine flourish'd at *Rome*; and we are told by *Livy*, that the Reason which induced the Sons of *Brutus*, and other young Men of Quality, to attempt the Re-admission of the *Tarquins*, was their Reluctance to submit to the wholesome Restraint of a well regulated Commonwealth.

Licentiousness is the constant Effect of a corrupt, ill-conducted Administration of Government, tyrannical and wanton in Power, but without Authority. For a due Observance of Laws can be no longer expected, than the Reverence for them is retain'd; but whenever a People find themselves thoroughly miserable and oppress'd, when the Dignity of Laws is lost and prostituted, and when Men see those sacred Ties multiplied to serve private Views,

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* *Machiav. on Livy, Lib. I, Cap. 4.*

this must naturally introduce a Contempt of such Laws, and a Hatred of those that govern: And as the Bulk of Mankind are not capable of making always the proper Distinction, can we suppose otherwise than that Hatred towards those in Power, A and Contempt of particular Laws, should, of Course, introduce a Contempt of Magistracy and Laws in general?

And what makes this unfortunate Situation (whenever any People happen to be in it) the more irretrievable is, that Governors, instead of enquiring into the true, the real Source of the Evil; instead of extending their Care to the redressing, or, at least, alleviating the Load of Misery which has given the unfortunate Wretches, affected by it, too great Reason for Discontent, or, rather, Despair; I say, instead of this, the Groanings of a miserable People are said only to be the Breathings of rebellious Spirits, Armies are thought necessary to awe their Complaints and increase their Poverty; they D meet with a Treatment from their publick Parents, which the Scripture supposes absurd and impossible from their natural ones; when *they cry for Bread, they are given a Stone; when they ask for Fish, they are given a Serpent.*

But tho' I will venture to affirm, that Licentiousness in a State, has always had its Foundation from the Faults of those that govern, yet I am, at the same Time, sensible, that when the Minds of a People are thoroughly exasperated, their Resentment will often exert itself indiscriminately, in the most unjustifiable Manner, even to a Breach, or Opposition of Laws, perhaps, the most salutary to the Commonwealth.

There is one Thing will always make People pay a proper Regard G to Laws and Government; that is, if they see them not made Use of to their Disadvantage, and find them-

selves easy and thriving under the Influence of them. The lower Rank of Men, who form the Bulk of a Nation, are always directed in their Sentiments of Things from what they themselves feel; and that not absurdly. But if in this general Way of judging, they mistake in Particulars, and are led into unwarrantable Actions, yet every Lover of Mankind and his Country must be touch'd with Commiseration, at the same Time that he thinks their Punishment necessary.

And here I cannot conclude without touching first, which I do with sincere Concern, on those unfortunate Tumults and Riots which have of late happen'd in several Parts of this Kingdom, which should awaken the Attention of every Lover of his Country, and demands the most serious Regard of the Legislature; and tho' every wise and good Man must have the greatest Detestation of these Proceedings, yet it is a most melancholy Reflexion, to consider the innumerable Train of publick Calamities that, I fear, have been too evidently the Sources of them: Decay of Trade and Industry, the certain Consequences of high Taxes; universal Corruption and Profligacy in Morals, too much encourag'd by E higher Examples, has brought that general Poverty and Dissoluteness into some Parts of the Kingdom, as has reduced Numbers of the Manufacturers to the State of desperate Ruffians, and declar'd Violators of the Laws and Peace of that Society, of F which they might have been the most industrious and useful Members, and most flourishing Support.

Therefore, Compassion for so many destitute unhappy Wretches, the Security of the publick Tranquillity, the Safety of every Individual, the Honour and Continuance of the present happy Establishment, nay, the very Being of Liberty itself, all call aloud and demand some Remedy: A

A Remedy that will heal the Sore from the Bottom, by cleansing the Foulness of the Ulcer, and removing the Causes of it.

This is not to be brought about by adding Sanguinary and Penal Laws, and by the burdensome and ever-destructive Expedients of keeping up standing Armies; but by easing the People of the Load they groan under, disincumbering Trade and Industry, and healing their Discontent; by discouraging Idleness and Licentiousness, by properly lessening their many Incentives and Harbours, tho' it should be attended with the Diminution of a small annual Income in an over-grown Revenue.

Laws and Penalties that will bind in Chains Liberty as well as Licentiousness, will always be desir'd by designing Ministers, who often make those very Calamities, in which their ill Conduct has involv'd a Nation, and which ought to turn to their own Confusion, serve as a Pretext to increase their Power of oppressing, and of adding Impunity to their worst Designs. And this Artifice ought therefore to be the more guarded against, because weak, tho' well-meaning Men, are often drawn in by the Dread of these popular Disorders, to contribute to the Establishment of the most mischievous Powers. But as even a confus'd State is better than a servile one, so national Peace and Tranquillity, founded only on the Ruins of Liberty, is no better than the Peace the Devil allow'd the Child in the Gospel, it *rent him sore and left him for dead.*

Craftsman, May 5. N^o 669.

The Rise of a corrupt INFLUENCE in PARLIAMENT, &c.

S I R,

THE Author of *the FITNESS* tells us, that the Statute 6

Hen. 8. Cap. 16, well deserves the Attention of every Member of the Legislature. He quotes the first Part of the Law for *Attendance*; but leaves out the latter Part, which contains the *Penalty*, and shews the Difference between our *ancient Constitution* and the *present*; for it is, "upon Pain to every of them so *departing*, or *absenting themselves*, in any other Manner, to lose all *those Sums of Money*, which he or they should or ought to have had, for his or their *Wages*."

It will not be disputed that those, who are paid for their *Attendance*, have no Injustice done them, if their *Pay-masters* stop their *Wages*, for not doing what they are hired to do. But this shews the essential Difference between *ancient* and *modern Parliaments*, in which such vast Numbers of the *Representatives* now receive *Wages* from the *Crown*. In former Times, there were frequent *new Parliaments*, and always but *short Sessions*. *Wages* were then paid, and the *poorer Boroughs* were excus'd, on Account of their Incapacity to pay. Laws were likewise made in Favour of the *Gentry*, that *Corporations* should compel none but their *own Freemen* to serve for them; which not only shews that it was esteem'd a *Burden*, but what a considerable Number of Members were sent by the *trading Part of the Nation*, to take Care of their Interest; whilst the *landed Gentlemen* had only the *Knights of the Shire* to represent them. In those Times, they were all united in one and the same Interest. The Separation of them into the *Landed Interest*, the *Trading Interest*, and the *Monied Interest*, is a modern Invention of *dividing and governing*; for *Parliaments* have been since alter'd so much, in this Respect, by their *long Continuance*, that a *Seat* is look'd upon as a *profitable Place*, and every Art is us'd to influence *Elections*. Nothing shews this Difference, in a stronger Light, than

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the hearing of *learned Counsel* at the Bar, in Cases of *controverted Elections*, setting forth the great Injury done to their *Clients*, and the great Advantage of being a *Member of Parliament*. Nay, the very *Laws* themselves, now allow *great Penalties* to be paid to the *Candidate*, for the Injuries done him, in *discharging* him from what was formerly thought a *Burden*. The vast Sums now spent to obtain a *Seat*; the Varying of the Market Prices of *Boroughs*, according to *Triennial* and *Septennial* Parliaments, and most Places being now given to *Members*, too plainly shews the Cause of *this Alteration*, and points out the *only Remedy*.

The Ministers of K. Charles II. were very sensible of the Use and Abuse of *Parliaments*. They were the first, who introduc'd the Art of governing by *Corruption*. The Extacy at the *Restoration* so intoxicated the Nation, that they could hardly think themselves safe, whilst they had any *Liberty* left; or refus'd any Thing that was ask'd. We are certainly much oblig'd to those honest Ministers, *Clarendon* and *Southampton*, for stopping the first Fury of those Times. The first of these was afterwards supposed to have suffered, upon that Account; for the Court thought he did not ask enough, when 1,200,000*l.* a Year was granted for defraying *all the Expences of the Government*; a Sum, tho' nothing in Comparison with the present Times, for those Uses, yet it was thought vast and dangerous, in Proportion to what any King of *England* ever enjoy'd before, and was justifiable only by the Transport of those Times. It enabled the King to keep up a *standing Army*, tho' a very small one in Comparison with what the Nation hath been since loaded with; a Power unknown in the Hands of any of his Predecessors; and such a one as laid the Foundation of all the sub-

sequent Progress of *arbitrary Power*. All the absurd Notions and Doctrines, upon which his *two Predecessors* had built, and by which they vainly flatter'd themselves with Hopes of enslaving the People with *Words*, were enforc'd by *Law*, as much as possible. The contrary Notions, and real good Acts for preserving the *Liberties of the People*, were exploded and repealed; particularly the Act for *Triennial Parliaments*.

If we view King Charles II. in this Situation, with respect to former Reigns, he seems to have been in full Enjoyment of *arbitrary Power*, abounding in *Wealth*, *Armies*, and the Power of making *Laws*, for his Support alone. This Success was certainly beyond his Expectation; and therefore he could not foresee any End of it. His Love of *Pleasure* and *Profusion* made him necessitous. The just Apprehensions of *France* and *Popery*, and the many Vacancies that happen'd in the *House of Commons*, created an Opposition, which enabled the *Friends of Liberty* to make a Stand again. The Views of the Court were better known: The Length of the Parliament had given Time for a thorough Acquaintance with every Member; and yet this Parliament was not corrupted with *Pensions*, till its 12th Year, 1672, which was first began by Lord Clifford. This was so contrary to the very Essence of a *Parliament*, that they have ever since been branded for it. But it is surprizing to find so much Noise made, at present, about 18 *Pensioners in Parliament*, who receiv'd amongst them 7,800*l.* a Year; tho' if it is consider'd as the Introduction of what hath since follow'd, the Amazement of the Thing at that Time, together with opening a new Scene of Government by it, we cannot help applauding those, who express'd so much Jealousy upon it.

Nothing confounds the true State

Things so much, as applying our present Ideas of them to the same Names in former Times. Some People are apt to imagine that all the Place-men and Pensioners constantly voted according to the Court's Direction, in those Times, without considering the Difference of the Infancy of what they have at last seen, with so much Labour, brought to Maturity. The very Notion of always governing by a corrupt Majority, was too great an Absurdity to be swallow'd, in those Times. Arbitrary Power and Popery were then too closely connected together for any Schemes of that Kind. The Notion of the People's making their own Fetters, and the Name of the People's Consent, by their Representatives, for the Service of the Crown, and the Minister only, could not enter into the Imagination of any Persons, in those Times. All the Views of arbitrary Power were then to rule alone, without the Name of a Parliament. The private Interests of those, who were corrupted, were diametrically opposite: Their fundamental Maxim was, not to starve the Crown, for Fear of a Dissolution; and not to give too much as a standing Revenue, for Fear of being no longer necessary. Upon this Principle, their whole Conduct turn'd; and all their extraordinary Grants were determinable at short Periods.

How different are the Times since, in that Point of Corruption? Yet the Clamour of the whole Nation run very high against them, and introduced Attempts to put an End to it, for the future. The first Instance was in a Bill, brought into the House of Lords, in 1675, to prevent the Dangers, which may arise from Persons disaffected to the Government. The wise Remedy for this was, to make the Nation swear, that they would not endeavour to alter the Protestant Religion, now established by Law in the Church of Eng-

land, nor the Government of this Kingdom, in Church or State, as it is now by Law establish'd. This occasion'd the Proposal of another Oath, to be taken by the Members of Parliament, for preserving the Independence of Parliament, from the Influence of the Crown.

This, with Reports spread abroad of their Corruption, were the Occasion of a Test, for purging the Members, and vindicating the Honour of the House of Commons, by swearing, as they did, that they had not, directly or indirectly, receiv'd any Sums of Money, &c. since Jan. 1, 1672. This points out the Time, when it was suppos'd Corruption was first introduced; and likewise shews how few were influenc'd by such Motives, as well as how necessary the rest thought it to preserve their own Reputations. How different hath been the Conduct since; when Endeavours have been made to obtain Bills, upon the same Plan; and surely for more visible Reasons? Is it not urg'd against them, as well as Place-Bills, that they are design'd as Reflexions upon the Members of that very Assembly? But do not they themselves convince Mankind of the Necessity of such Bills, from the very Motives of not passing them? That a Set of Men should thus acknowledge themselves to be accused; take the Charge upon them; and for that very Reason, will not shew their own Innocence, is somewhat surprizing. The evil Influence exists, or it does not: If it does not exist, every Body would agree to take away all Suspicion of the Abuse of a Power, which gives such Uneasiness to the whole Nation: If it does exist, the more unjustly is the Remedy, in any Degree, refus'd, since it the more convinces the Nation of the Necessity of it; and how vain are the Hopes of any Opposition to a Minister, whilst it is impossible, let the Opposers be never so much in the Right, in a Cause

Cause of the greatest Importance to the People, to have so much as a Chance of carrying any Point against him, by a *Majority of Votes*.

Soon after this, an Address was mov'd for, in the *House of Lords*, for dissolving *that Parliament*, and for calling frequent new *Parliaments*. The Arguments for it were, that long *Parliaments* had produced an Alteration in our Constitution; which, join'd with *this Corruption*, they could not be consider'd as the *Representatives of the People*—I shall mention some of the Arguments then urg'd for it.

“ * *Parliaments* began in the Time of *Henry VIII.* to be longer than they ought; that *Prince* knowing that long *Parliaments* were fitter to make great *Changes*. They have been too frequent since; but never of that Length as this. Besides, the long Continuance of *Representatives* renders them liable to be corrupted, and won off from the publick Interest. It gives them Time to settle their Cabals and Interest at *Court*, and takes away the great Security the Nation hath; that if it be possible to happen, that the *Spiritual Lords*, on Account of their great Dependence on the *Crown*, together with the *Court Lords* and great *Officers*, should, in any future Age, make up a greater Number of the *House of Lords*, and should pass Things very prejudicial to the *Publick*; yet all should prove ineffectual, and the Nation remain safe in an *House of Commons* lately chosen, that have not Time to learn new *Sentiments*, or put off their old *Principles* at a good Market, &c.”—The Nation was very sensible of this Kind of Reasoning, (for it is plain that mere *Pensioners*, in the *House of Lords*, were not so much as dreamt of, in those Times) and their Apprehensions of such an *Influence* have been ascribed as the Reason why

the next *Parliament* was chosen so generally against the *Court*.—They too were so well convinced of the dangerous Consequences of such an *Influence*, that upon being informed of 18 *Members* having receiv'd *Pensions*, in the last *Parliament*, they ordered a Bill to be brought in, that no *Member* should receive any *Pension*, or Place of Profit, &c. The small Number of *Pensioners*, as it may be thought at present, upon which all this Outcry was rais'd, is very evident. What was the Number of *Place-men*, who sat in that *Parliament*, does not appear; but they seem only to be hooked in afterwards. We may, however, negatively conclude, that they were not many, from the very State of Things at that Time; for the *Admiralty* was in one *Person*, and the *Treasury* in one *Person*. The *Commission of Trade* was composed chiefly, if not entirely, of a Committee of the *Privy Council*, appointed for that Use. The *inferior Officers* of them all three were really, and so then esteemed, only necessary *Drudges of the Office*. The great Number of Places in the *Exchequer* were low Things, in those Days. The *Officers* of the *Army* were very few too; and probably few or none of the *Fleet* were in *Parliament*, considering in what a low State it then was. The *Collection of the Revenue* afforded but little corrupt *Influence*: The *Customs* were farm'd, for Part of the Time; as well as the *Excise* and *Heartb-Money*. To modern Inventions we owe the Improvements, on that Head, of influencing *Relations*, and *Quartering*.

I will conclude, at present, with observing, that if so small a Number of *Place-men* and *Pensioners* fill'd the Nation with such dreadful Apprehensions at that Time; What ought they not to fear from what they have seen since? The more necessary

necessary a Regulation of this Kind hath been, the less Success hath it always met. The *several Laws*, already made, for preventing it, are sufficient to shew how careful we ought to be to preserve the *Representatives of the People* untainted; but, if at least double the Number of *Placemen* should be in any Parliament, besides *Pensioners*, than ever were when those former *Laws* pass'd, for limiting and restraining them; is it not a Proof how essentially they are eluded? Will it not demonstrate the certain Success of every Debate, when *all the Placemen* are constantly on *one Side the Question*?—*Debating* would then be at an End. What other Struggle therefore can be made, in such a Case, than to bring it to *that Point*, which will make it absolutely necessary to regulate *such a Grievance*; or, that it shall be the avow'd Principle of our *future Government*, to which all must be obliged to submit, if ever they should be reduc'd to it, that *Parliaments* themselves would be the greatest Burthen and Grievance of the Nation?

HAMPDEN.

Common Sense, May 12. N^o 119.

Occasion'd by another Letter in the Gazetteer. (See p. 181.)

OUR well-bred Antagonist of March 24, who fancied, like an arch Wag as he is, that by attacking a supposed Author of this Paper with personal Scurrility, he could divert the Attention of the Publick from the Examination of those excellent Measures which have rais'd us into such Reputation abroad, and have occasioned so much Prosperity at home; tho' he then fail'd of Success, yet, like a Man of true Spirit, returns to the Charge, and hath made his Appearance in the same genteel Stile. (*by the Daily Gazetteer of April 17.*)

In this second Essay he denies that he was Author of the first;—but he cannot conceal himself, the Dignity of the Sentiments and the Stile discover the Author. An *Italian Poet*, describing a Lady's delicate Taste in Dreis, says, that a Pin stuck in by her Finger gave an agreeable Air to the whole Person: So a single Dash of his Pen communicates a certain *Je ne scay quoy* to a whole Work; for all that belongs to him are Grace and Graces.

I will illustrate what I say by presenting the Readers with a few Flowers from this eloquent Discourse.

Speaking of Writers, he says, "I don't at all wonder that the little, low Emissaries of Faction, and the Hackney Scriblers who are of no Faction, but write merely that they may eat, should be as scurrilous and abusive, as if there was not an Oaken Stick, a Blanket, or a Horse-pond in the World; and should, from their Garrets and lurking Holes, or the Corners of Lanes and Allies, pelt Persons of the highest Rank (*meaning himself*) with all the Dirt and E——t (*the last is a sweet Word the Squire often uses in Conversation, especially among the Ladies*) they can rake out of their Dunghills, or sweep out of their Kennels."

—The images his cleanly fancy forms,
Are beauteous like himself—

Not above a third Part of this sweet Discourse relates to the Author of *Common Sense*, in the small Compass of which he hath dignified him with the several Titles following:

Infamous Miscreant,—*Knight of the Post*,—*Bully to a Brothel*,—*Puff to a Gaming Table*,—*Hackney Writer*,—*little low Fellow*,—*Irish Papist*,—*Cheat*,—*Impostor*,—*Spy*,—*Affassin*,—*vile Incendiary*,—*common Slanderer*,—*prostitute Hackney Scribler*,—*Russian*,—*Malefactor fit to be try'd at the Old Baily*,—*Pick-*

—*Pick-pocket joining in the Cry of Stop Thief.*

Sweet are his words, and tunelessly they flow.

In the Hurry of his Imagination he forgot Highwayman, Footpad, and Son of a Whore; but they will serve in his next: In the mean Time we shall give him Credit for them in our Books, and we'll account for all together.

Here you behold the same graceful Negligence, or, to speak in the Words of the Learned, that *curiosa Felicitas* which distinguishes the Works of HORACE.

He is pleas'd to say, these fine Things cannot be too often repeated.—Go on then illustrious Wit, iputter and swell, loll out a Yard of that eloquent Tongue, and slobber all that approach with the Repetition of them:—Praise him again, and again, in the same decent Language, thou hast his Consent, for full well he knows thy Pen will no more hurt him than thy Sword.

However eloquent thy Expressions may be, some of them are a little unlucky, especially that in thy first Paper, where thou tellest this Author of his blundering. I will not enumerate thine and thy Relation's Blunders, for I am not writing a Volume in Folio; but I may ask thee, whose Blunder was that, the other Day, in Relation to certain Bank Notes, which, being deliver'd to a wrong Man, made a Discovery how virtuously the P—— Money is laid out.

As to your great Dignity, which you are pleas'd to top upon us, you must know, that the Person who writes this saw thy Dignity in another Place, when it was the Jest of every Assembly at Night, and every Coffee-House in the Morning thro' a great City. No Doubt, you thought of giving a high Idea of your Dignity to a great P——s, when you entertain'd her and her Ladies with a Malady occasion'd by the Loss of

Leather from a certain Part, which you thought it was very witty to pronounce *Ore Rotundo*. I assure you, Sir, we could write a Book as large as the *Roman Comique* filled with nothing but Stories of thy Dignity, in which, perhaps, some of the Absurdities are full as diverting as those of thy illustrious Predecessor, *Monsieur Ragotin*.

You triumph extremely upon a Notion that the Author of this Paper is not a rich Man. I don't know how this came into your Head, for, I assure you, if he wanted Money, he could, within the Circle of his own Acquaintance, borrow at least half a Crown; which he doth not mention in Order to brag of the great Company he keeps, but to shew thee he is able to raise more Money upon his single Credit, than thou couldst some Years ago, upon thine.

As to your Reflection about his lodging in a Garret, it does him Honour; for it is the Opinion of the Learned, that, Time out of Mind, the best Productions of the Brain, whether in Prose or Verse, have descended from the upper Story: It would become thee to speak with a little more Respect of the Habitation of the Muses. If he doth not think fit to discover where his Garret lies, it is for Reasons of State; the Lodging of a political Writer is one of the *Arcana Imperii*, which, for the Publick Good and his own, he is obliged to keep. He would have thee know, that his Garret is his Castle, and he doth not desire to have its Tranquillity disturb'd by such Emissaries as a Relation of yours often employs, who are the worst Company in the World to a Gentleman who is paying the Debts of the Nation, or settling the Balance of *Europe* in his Garret.

But as the Scene of Affairs must of Necessity change in a short Time,

Time, he will, probably, come down Stairs; and it is the general Opinion that you and a certain Relation of yours will be obliged to walk up Stairs, unless you have extreme good Luck.

Your Scurrility upon all Writers, without Distinction, makes him laugh; he will present the Publick with a few of them.

Fellows who make a Trade of Defamation and Scandal, and infamously hire themselves out for Bread:—The most worthless, the most pernicious, the most detestable of all Mankind:—The Pest and Bane of human Society.

Tho' this be no more than your common-Place *Billingsgate*, yet I can't say but it comes naturally enough from a Man, who never associated with any Writers but what answer'd that Description. The Author of your *Enquiry* and *London Journal* was most extremely a Hireling, and hath received his Reward.—Let the Truth of his Writings declare his Character.—What do you think of the *Spanish Curate*, will he not demand Payment for you know what? *A Word is enough to the Wife.*

Did not you and your Relation pick up a Fellow that had not a Garret to lie in, nor a Capacity for any Thing but calling Names, place him in his Chariot (a Figure not unlike thyself) and, at the Rate of near 2,000*l.* a Year, hire him to abuse every Gentleman that had better Parts or more Honesty than your illustrious Selves? Hath not the City of *London*, nay the whole People of *England* been abused by Persons hired by you for that Purpose? Must not thy virtuous Relation come into the Rank, who, while he lay under the Guilt and Conviction of the dirtiest and meanest Practice that can stain the Character of a Gentleman, abused the whole Legislature in a Pamphlet?

Thy Description of Writers can fall upon none, therefore, but those that belong to thee, and they are obliged to take it, because they are Hirelings. And here I cannot forbear making an Observation, of which, I hope, every Body who reads this will take Notice, that more Money hath been given to just such Persons as you have described, as the Reward of Scurrility, in the Space of 15 Years, than *Lewis XIV.* who will be renowned to Posterity for his Encouragement of Arts and Sciences, gave in his whole Reign among Men of Learning.

Thou layest great Stress upon the Author of *Common Sense's* concealing himself, as if it made thy Measures either better or worse. Those who write upon political Subjects, even under the Protection of Power, have always conceal'd themselves; those against it are obliged, from Motives of common Prudence, to do so. Were the Authors of the *Tatlers*, *Spectators*, *Cato's Letters*, and *Craftsman*, Knights of the Post, Assassins, Cheats and Impostors, because their Writings were publish'd under borrow'd Names?—What an Inundation of Nonsense dost thou pour out in this Fury of thy Malice? —But I see thou art not able to look Danger in the Face, and the Distractions of Mind, which thy Fears have thrown thee into, have occasion'd this Raving.

It gives thy generous Soul no small Pain to think that the Author of this Paper should receive some Profit from his Works:—Know, to thy eternal Mortification, that he owns it: I will tell it thee, tho' it should kill thee; nor is it a Disgrace in him, more than in other Writers, who have had the good Fortune to please the Publick. If it be a Reproach, he owns it is a Reproach that cannot be laid to thy Writings, nor those of thy Associates,

ciates, which it is very well known are printed at the publick Charge, in Spite of the P—, and, like the Issue of common Prostitutes, dropp'd at Peoples Doors.

If thou hadst not taken Folly for thy Guide, thou wouldst be the last Man living that should begin personal Hostilities; —but since thou hast begun them, dost thou fancy, Friend, that we will not shew thee to the Publick, strip'd of all Disguise?

I must quit thee a Minute, to speak a Word or two to the Publick, which, I hope, will take Notice, that when they hear that this Man has hang'd himself, they will not lay his Death to our Charge; he drew it all upon himself, and therefore no Jury can make more of it against us, than *se defendendo*.

If it was proper to talk to thee seriously, he would tell thee, that he hath every Right to be call'd a Gentleman that thou canst pretend to: His Fortune was at least a little better than thine, nor is that any great Boast, when he is comparing himself to one who was thrust naked upon the World, and whose whole Inheritance were Nonsense and Absurdity.

He hath told thee before, that he believ'd the Protection, which makes thee give thyself these sawcy Airs, will soon forsake thee; he is now morally sure of it; the Minute that Event comes to pass, the Reasons which oblige him at present to conceal himself will be remov'd, and he promises thou shalt know him, (he means thou shalt know the Person who writes this, and was also the Author of that of the 7th of April; for, I presume you guess that more Hands than one have appear'd in this Paper.) I say, thou shalt not only know him, but thou shalt see him. If he refuses thee this Favour, may he be as contemptible then as thou art to day.

Craftsman, May 12. N^o 670.

A CORRUPT INFLUENCE, &c. Continued from p. 231.

S I R,

I Never read any Thing with more Pleasure than the *Dissertation upon Parties*; and nothing, in my Opinion, hath been more useful to the Nation. We already see the Effects of it, in some Degree, and it will be of much greater Service to future Generations; since our Posterity may learn from hence to avoid destroying themselves, and giving up their *Liberties*, for *idle nominal Distinctions*, which are of no other Use, than as Means to satisfy the *Ambitious and Corrupt*.

The Notion of managing by Parties, with the Help of a little *corrupt Influence*, was obvious and easy, take either Side of the Question, or change Hands as often as they would: But the Notion of corrupting the *Whole*, when *Party Distinctions* no longer prevail'd, was a Scheme of *Slavery*, that could never enter into the Thoughts of any; and yet the continued Increase of that *Influence*, under *Ministers* of all Denominations, gives us just Reason, when Parties are no more, to be very apprehensive, as it is the only Means of supporting a *weak and corrupt Minister* against the Sense of the *whole Nation*, and even of his *own Hirelings*, for the Sake of that *dear Self*. Such a Man, from the Corruption of his Heart, and the Lust of Power, would pursue this *corrupt Influence*, tho' he were sure in the End to sacrifice his *Royal Master* to his *wretched Politicks*. — That this may never be the Case, I will proceed to shew the Necessity of limiting the Number of *Place-men* in the *House of Commons*.

I took Notice, in my last, that 1,200,000*l.* a Year was given, at the *Restoration*, for defraying all *Expences*

princes of the Government. When the Parliament began to grow a little troublesome to his Minister, and not finding himself in such Possession of arbitrary Power as he flatter'd himself with; a Project was set on Foot by Lord Clifford, in the House of Lords, to make Parliaments uselefs, by increasing the Revenue of the Crown. From this Time the Parliament gave no more Money for the King's own Use, being now sensible to what it would naturally tend; notwithstanding which, Lord Danby once try'd to get an additional Revenue of 300,000*l.* a Year, during his Majesty's Life. This exasperated the Parliament so much the more, as they plainly saw their own Destruction intended; that Parliaments would be of no longer Use; and even the Corrupt perceiv'd their own Insignificancy, for the future. Experience had taught them what farther Sum was wanting to support arbitrary Power; and therefore they were the more cautious of giving any Thing; especially since it was well known that the Revenues, given for 1,200,000*l.* were so greatly increas'd in their Produce, that the clear Revenue of the Crown was then above 1,600,000*l.* a Year. But what put an End to all theirs, as well as the People's Confidence in that Prince, was the Discovery that, notwithstanding their Advice, as well as the Desires of the whole Nation, for their own Security, to preserve the Balance of Europe, and join in reducing the over-grown Power of France, he was willing they should put themselves to what Charge they pleas'd; but the real Interest of the Nation was to be sacrific'd to his own private Views—He wanted the Assistance of France—He therefore betray'd all Europe, and sold them, upon the additional Consideration of a Pension to be paid him by France of 300,000*l.* a Year; assigning it as a Reason to France, that he might

govern without a Parliament. Thus we see that about 2,000,000*l.* a Year was then thought sufficient for the Support of an arbitrary Government.

The latter Part of this Reign, as well as the next, is a farther Proof of the same Design—Upon the Accession of K. James, a new Parliament was call'd. The illegal Method of taking away the Charters of Corporations, in the late Reign, the Violence in some Places, and the false Returns in many others, have always made them look'd upon not as a free, but a pack'd Parliament. They immediately gave the King the same Revenues for Life, which his Brother had. Upon Monmouth's Rebellion, they added to them, by granting new Taxes for 8 Years; but when that was over, they stopt short. They would not part with their Religion, nor suffer the Papists to enjoy Employments, which Protestants had only then a Right to hold. They would grant no more Money, for enabling the King to keep up a standing Army, without their future Assistance. And, lastly, they enter'd seriously into an Examination of the Petitions against the Elections of great Numbers of their own Members. As they could be of no farther Use to the Crown, whilst they had any Regard for themselves, or their own Preservation, they met no more; for they were willing to grant every Thing, except making themselves uselefs.

From the Instances of these two Reigns, as well as from the Nature of the Thing itself, we need be under no Apprehensions that any Parliament, as we are now constituted, will ever designedly make their Prince absolute, so as to govern without them, or their having any of the Profits of that Power. But we have Reason for just Fears of another Nature; that they will make him as rich, as powerful, and as absolute, in Effect, as any arbitrary Prince can

desire, whilst the *Names* and *Forms* continue in *them*; and whilst they are constantly well paid for their Services, to the great Impoverishment of the rest of the Subjects; since *Taxes* will be as necessary to support *them*, as the Occasions of the *Crown*.

It was a Maxim frequently deliver'd by Lord Treasurer *Burleigh*, and since look'd upon as a Prophecy, "That *England* can hardly be undone, unless it be by her *own Parliaments*." But if it is consider'd that *long Parliaments* were first introduc'd in the Reign of *Henry VIII.* who was an able Politician, there is little Room to doubt that he foresaw the Consequences of such an Innovation.—To return.

This *Parliament*, as well as the first of *Charles II.* had given enough to support an *arbitrary Government*, without their Help, tho' not with that Design. The Grants to King *James* were so large, that he thought himself in full Possession of *arbitrary Power*, and consequently made Use of it in every Shape. His most predominant Passion was to subvert our *Religion* first; in which he seem'd to think himself sure of succeeding, since he had a Revenue of 2,119,000*l.* and his whole Expence amounted to but 182,000*l.* a Year, which enabled him to keep a *great Fleet*, a *standing Army* of 19,000 Men, and afforded a vast Increase of *Pensions*, and *Secret-Service Money*, beyond what was ever heard of before; besides leaving so considerable a Saving, after every Expence was answer'd—How far the *whole* falls short of what is now call'd the *current Service of the Year*, exclusive of the *ever-growing, opulent Civil-List*, and the vast Sums annually collected for our *Debts*, may be shewn hereafter, as well as what might be sav'd, if all *useless Places* and *Pensions* should be abolish'd.

Our Histories agree, in general,

as to the illegal Practices of *that Reign*, which brought about the *Revolution*. The Declaration of the *Prince of Orange* points them out, and asserts that the only Remedy was a *free Parliament*, on which A Account he came over to deliver us, with an Army of 12,000 Men, from the Bondage of being *without one*. The mere Name of a *Parliament* would not serve the Turn; for K. *James* had, in Council the *August* before, given Orders for Writs to be issued out for the Meeting of B a *Parliament* on Nov. 27. But Objections were made against *such a Parliament*, from the Precedent of the *last*, and the corrupt Influence of the *Crown* on the Members. Those, who were on the other C Side of the Question, reason'd for the Freedom and Legality of the *last Parliament*, as well as for *that*, which would be chosen, with such cant Arguments as the Possession of Power always gives to *those*, who enjoy it, and will for ever be made use of by *wicked Ministers*. But the D Truth of the Point in Question, was no longer to be colour'd over by *Words* and *Forms* only. The *Prince of Orange* therefore spoke out plainly, in his *Declaration*, what was necessary to restore our *Liberty*, and to E secure it hereafter; particularly, in the following Clause of it.

"Tho', according to the Constitution of the *English Government*, and immemorial Custom, all Elections of *Parliament Men* ought to be made with an *intire Liberty*, without any F Sort of Force, or the requiring the *Electors* to chuse *such Persons* as shall be named to them; and the Persons thus freely elected ought to give their Opinions *freely* upon all Matters, that are brought before them, having the *Good of the Nation*, ever before their Eyes, and following in all Things the Dictates of their Conscience; yet now the People of *England* cannot expect any Remedy from

a free Parliament, legally call'd and chosen. But they may, perhaps, see one call'd, in which all Elections will be carried by *Fraud*, or *Force*, and which will be compos'd of such Persons, of whom those evil Counsellors hold themselves well assur'd, in which Case all Things will be carried on, according to their Direction and Interest, without any Regard to the Good, or Happiness of the Nation."

Thus we see the fundamental Principle of the glorious Revolution, and the very Act of our immortal Deliverance, were founded on the free Choice of the People, and having their Representatives uninfluenc'd by the Crown, and its Ministers. This restor'd us to our original Constitution, and the very Essence of an House of Commons. It vacated the Throne for a worthier Successor; brought upon us long Wars, at an immense Expence of Blood and Treasure. This involv'd us in the vast Debts, now owing, and the heavy Taxes we now pay. But every true Lover of his Country must rejoice in it, and think he cannot purchase, at too dear a Rate, the real Enjoyment of those Blessings, for which all this hath been done; and to secure which the present Royal Family was placed on the Throne. —But no Body can think that the Struggle was, or could be justifiable, if the only Design was to change the Hands of the Corruptors and the Corrupted. Had K. James he'd such a Parliament as was design'd; should they have approved all his Measures, and enacted every Thing he wanted; would that have been any more binding upon the People, or esteem'd their own Consent, tho' formally legal? Would not the same Right have subsisted to deliver ourselves from such Mock-Justice, as there did to prevent their Meeting, and getting a Parliament freely chosen? —Where will the Difference be hereafter, if Parliaments should ever be, in a great Measure, absolutely chosen by the Crown, and a Majority obtain'd universally known to be under the direct Influence of the Minister? To prevent this, there were several Struggles after the Revolution; for the Methods, then taken, to secure us from what was most apprehended, occasion'd Fears of another Nature.

The Acts of K. James were illegal and arbitrary, and the whole Nation saw the Tendency of them; all Parties united against him. A free Parliament was thought the only Remedy, in that Case. The Situation of Affairs was such, that nothing but such a Parliament was then thought necessary. The Remembrance of the long Parliament, and their Corruption, bore no Part in their Apprehensions any more. Thus it commonly happens in Contests for Liberty, when Necessity drives the People to an Alteration. They are always apt to lay hold of a present Remedy, without correcting the same, or the like Abuses, for the future; which, instead of preventing, rather authorizes them,

This was then the Case: We were to have annual Sessions of Parliament, in order to preserve us from the Power of the Crown; and the fatal Error of giving the King so much as to be able to govern without Parliaments, which cou'd only be prevented by separating what was antiently the Revenue of the Crown, into a Civil-List Establishment, and the current Service of the Year. By these Means, the Crown could not have a Ship, or a Soldier, without the Grant of Parliament every Year. —It was thought that they had thus secur'd themselves from what was then their greatest Object of Danger.

From hence immediately arose a new Form of Government; which, in some Measure, separated the Interests of the Constituents and their Representatives. The longer Parliaments should continue hereafter, and the more Money should be distributed amongst them, the more would they be divided from the true Interest of the People. The Crown and they would be united; and pretend that long Parliaments, as well as the Corruption so much complain'd of formerly, were not such dangerous Things as they were then thought.

I always look upon the Revolution as an *Æra* that restor'd our Constitution to the original Principles, upon which it was founded, of 3 separate independent States composing one Legislature; that it was invading and destroying our Government, to make either, or both of them dependent on the Crown; that the Knowledge of past Times, and the Methods then practis'd for making them dependent, were sufficient not to trust our All to them, but strongly justify'd the Necessity of the Revolution; nor hath there ever since been but one Man so prostitute, as publicly to argue for the corrupt Dependency of Parliament. No Body but he could assert that our Right of a free Navigation, in the West-Indies, was clear and certain; but that our submitting to the Spanish Depredations, for so long a Time, made it a new Demand, which therefore requir'd Examination, Discussion, and Decision, by Way of Treaty.

Whoever considers that when such a Dependence shall be created, there is an End of our Constitution, tho' the Form should remain; the Friends of the Revolution cannot but think it highly necessary to do every Thing, that may possibly prevent our being reduc'd to so deplorable a Condition. Jealousies of this Kind are unavoidable, whilst all Places are bestow'd upon Members of Parliament, or their Relations, and are encreas'd by the long, fruitless Endeavours to prevent them; for, soon after the Revolution, this Contest began, and it became a Sort of Science, or Profession, to be a Member of Parliament. An Interest in a Borough was look'd on as a Maintenance itself; or a Peerage and a Borough an honourable Provision for a Family. The Practice of draining

draining and supplying each other became habitual. A *Vote* gives, and a *Voter* receives — But this shall be farther consider'd in my next, when the *Laws*, already pass'd, for preventing that corrupt Influence, and how they have been render'd ineffectual, shall be examin'd.

HAMPDEN. A

Common Sense, May 19. N^o 120.

Of ENTHUSIASM, and the present Practices of the METHODISTS.

S I R,

FALSE Notions and Schemes of Religion deserve to be expos'd, in your Paper, no less than wrong Management and Corruptions in Government. The Propagators of both are equal Offenders against Common Sense, and, upon that Account, should be equally stigmatiz'd by it.

The bad Effects of an enthusiastick Spirit, and the Injuries that accrue to true Religion and Virtue by its Means, can never be too cautiously guarded against, by any who have a real Regard for the Interest of the Church of *England*, and the Purity of her Doctrine. Libertinism in Principles and Practice (which intirely ingrosses the Care and Watchfulness of our Clergy, and, which, indeed, claims their particular Attendance) cannot be more detrimental to her Constitution than the mad Frolicks of an overheated Zeal and Devotion. If the former attacks her openly, the latter is, no less, her secret Enemy.

Indeed, on one Account, the Libertine seems to be a much less formidable Enemy than the Enthusiast, as there are more Hopes of a Reformation from him than from the other. As he generally acts upon no Principles at all, or else upon very unsettled ones, he may, as the Heat of Youth goes off, and after a Fatigue of sensual Pleasures, arrive at his right Mind and a true Notion of Things. But we can have no Room to think so of the Enthusiast. He acts upon Notions, wild as they are, which to him appear as certain as Revelations from the Deity, nay, which he oftentimes is positively persuaded in himself are Revelations.

That there are now such a Set of Men in the World, who would persuade us that they are actuated by an extraordinary Influence from Above, that they openly averr their Principles, and are continually striving to gain Proselytes to them, can be no Mystery to any one who has considered the Tenets and Dispositions of our modern Methodists. Tho' they are a Sort of People mean, indeed, in themselves, both in Condition and Understanding, and, upon that Account, should rather claim our Pity than any serious Rebuke; yet, as their Pastences come abroad under the specious

Veil of Religion, and a superior Sanctity to the rest of the World, which may give them Countenance with the unthinking Part of it, it cannot be amiss to throw out some Caveat against their Proceedings.

What an unhappy Influence their Notions may have upon the Young and Unwary I shall prove to you, by a Visit I made, some Time ago, to a Gentleman of my Acquaintance. I had formerly contracted a very particular Intimacy with him at School; where I had observed in him an amiable Simplicity of Manners, together with a wonderful Vivacity of Parts. In short, his Capacity and Accomplishments were such as, I have often thought, could not but one Day make him a Delight to his Friends, an Honour to his Country, and an Ornament to whatever Profession he should engage in. But, alas! how is this glorious Prospect over-shadow'd by the Clouds of Superstition and Enthusiasm!

At my first Entrance into his Chamber, I was surpriz'd to find myself receiv'd by him with a wonderful Coldness. Instead of warm Expressions of Friendship, and Proposals for the Continuance of it, I immediately perceiv'd the Marks of Disaffection to me on his Countenance. His demure Look and Reservedness of Behaviour quickly told me, that I was no welcome Guest. However, I was resolv'd to stay some Time, in order to endeavour the rectifying any Mistakes he might have entertain'd concerning me. It was not long before the little Discourse we had turn'd upon the Topick of Religion. I now began to perceive the Causes of his Distemper. He descanted to me on the stupendous Subjects of Free Grace, Holy Influences, Regeneration, Election, Reprobation, and gave me some shrewd Hints that I had the Tokens of the last of these upon me. The many wild inconsistencies he ran himself into in the Compass of half an Hour's Talk, together with the natural Aversion I have to any Thing of Moroseness in Religion, threw me into the utmost Concern for him. Besides the utter Impossibility of persuading those People by plain Reason and Argument, there appear'd to me something so ridiculous in the whole Tenour of his Discourse, as intirely forbade my making any serious Reply to any Thing he had said. What could I do? To have laugh'd would have been as great a Breach of good Manners in me, as it would have been thought by him, irreligious and profane: I remember'd, likewise, the Advice of old *Osborn* to his Son, viz. "Despise not a Profession of Holiness, because it may be true: But have a Care how your trust it, for Fear it should be false."

In the Midst of this Debate with myself there enter'd to us a Gentleman, whose Face I had a long Time been acquainted with, and to which (as I am apt to build a good deal upon

upon Physiognomy) I had often conceiv'd a particular Aversion: His meagre Countenance, lank Hair, Puritanical Behaviour, and that Stock of Spiritual Pride which domineer'd in every Look of him, gave me the utmost Horror at the Thought of his being my Friend's Confident. But, alas! I soon found that he had got full Possession of the young Gentleman's Soul and Conscience, and that in every Thing he obey'd him as his Ghostly Father and Counsellor.

It was now about 3 o'Clock in the Afternoon, when I observ'd my Friend looking very wishfully upon a large Plate of Bread and Butter that lay upon the Table. He was reaching out his Hand in order to seize a Slice of it, when the Rev. Gentleman, just mention'd, cruelly restrain'd him, and, in a rough Tone, ask'd him; whether he could not abstain for 5 Minutes longer? Telling him, that it wanted so much for the Time of Fasting to be expir'd. You may suppose me, Sir, not a little out of Countenance at the Rebuke my Friend received from his severe Confessor. It put me in Mind of a Passage I had read in *Prudentius*, as follows:

Quosdam de populo vidit sacerdos

Libandum sibi poculum offerentes.

Jejunamus, ait, recusis potum:

Nondum nona diem resignat hora.

By this Time my Patience was well nigh spent, and I began to consult with myself, whether I had best take my Leave quietly, or first of all vent a little of my Spleen against this religious Seducer. However, despairing of doing any Good by the latter, I determin'd upon the former, and accordingly departed.

Let me ask you, now, *Mr. Common Sense*, in this Method of acting, this inculcating severe Notions of Christianity, agreeable to the mild and gentle Precepts of the Gospel? Is it agreeable to the Genius of that Religion, the Founder of which has told us, *that his Yoke is easy, and his Burden light*? A Religion whose Doctrines are compatible with any reasonable Enjoyment our Nature is capable of, and are not design'd to eradicate, but to lay a gentle Restraint upon our Appetites.

To consider this Evil of Methodism any farther in a religious View may, perhaps, be foreign to the Design of your Paper; I shall, therefore, confine myself to a few Reflexions upon the bad Effects it may have upon Civil Society.

And here, I think, it must be own'd by all, that a Multitude of Sects in Religion must be very disadvantageous to the Welfare of any Community. Differences of Opinion in religious Matters not only breed Dissensions and Animosities among the People, but generally carry along with them a Diversity of Sentiments with Regard to Government. Besides, that such Disagreements must naturally be very inconvenient to those at the Helm, as they must every now and then lay them un-

der a Necessity of disobliging one Party or another. Some late Applications to the present M——y, may fully prove the Truth of this last Observation. I shall add what the celebrated Author of *The Sentiments of a Church of England-Man* says to this Purpose. "I think it clear, that any great Separation from the establish'd Church, tho' to a new one that is more pure and perfect, may be an Occasion of endangering the publick Peace, because it will compose a Body always in Reserve, prepared to follow any discontented Heads upon the plausible Pretexes of advancing true Religion, and opposing Error, Superstition, or Idolatry."

The Industry of the inferior People in a Society is the great Source of the Prosperity and Wealth of it. But if one Man, like the Rev. Mr. *Whitefield*, should have it in his Power, by his Preaching, to detain 5 or 6000 of the Vulgar from their Daily Labour, what a Loss, in a little Time, may this bring to the Publick? For my Part, I shall expect to hear of a prodigious Rise in the Price of Coals, about *Bristol*, if this Gentleman proceeds, as he has begun, with his charitable Lectures to the Colliers of *Kingwood*.

If he practis'd thus with the Inhabitants of *Georgia*, I think he ought to be restrain'd by the Legislature from ever going thither again: Because it is of the utmost Importance to a new Colony, that the People of it should be instill'd with an early Love of Labour and Industry, which, we may be certain, can never be well supported by the pious Discipline of a Methodist.

The last sad Consequence arising from the odd Notions of these Gentlemen, is the unavoidable Ruin, and Loss to the Publick, of as many young People of a liberal Education as shall unhappily fall into their Hands. I call it, Sir, a Loss to the Publick; for, can there remain any Love for one's Country, any true Spirit of Liberty, when such abject Doctrines have once possess'd the Mind? Slavish Principles in Religion, will carry along with them the Principles of civil Slavery. The true *English* Spirit (whether it be the Gift of Heaven, or the Product of our Climate) is the most valuable Blessing we enjoy above all other Nations. If this should be filch'd from us, if it should be carry'd off by these religious Smugglers, how dreadful may be the Consequences! May not some future Ad——n (for we must not suspect it of the present) lay hold of such an Opportunity of introducing arbitrary Schemes of Government, when these false Priests may have so well pav'd the Way for their Reception. I believe I am not singular in this Way of thinking, and flatter myself that, *Mr. Common Sense*, and every sincere Lover of his Country will join with me in it.

Yours, &c.

P. Q.
Mr.

Mr. *Whitefield's* preaching up and down in the Fields about London (as he did before at *Bristol*, &c.) to vast Multitudes of People, as in *Moorfields*, on *Kennington-Common*, *Hampstead-Heath*, &c. having made a great Noise, and been the Subject of much Conversation, that our Readers may see something of his Way of Thinking, we shall here take Occasion to insert the following Account from the *General Evening Post*, which was afterwards printed also in the *Weekly Miscellany* of the 12th Instant, viz.

A Copy of a private Conversation of Mr. Whitefield's taken down in Writing after his leaving the Room, and brought to him by the Rev. Mr. T—ck—r, Minister of All-Saints in Bristol. And at his Request, sign'd by Mr. Whitefield himself.

BEFORE I went to the University, I led, as I thought, a very religious Life, I constantly attended the publick Service of the Church, received the Sacrament, gave Alms, fasted frequently six and thirty Hours, and in short, practis'd every Moral and Christian Duty, insomuch that all that knew me look'd upon me as a Saint. I then went to the University, where I began my Studies in the usual Manner, applying myself to the Mathematicks, and Classick Learning; and as God had given me a fruitful Genius, a ready Wit, and great Sagacity, the College conceived great Hopes of my making a pretty Scholar. I also dedicated proper Seasons to the reading of the Sermons of our best Divines, *Sharp*, *Seab*, *Calamy*, and some of *Tillotson's* I have read since; Mr. *Wesley* has read him more; but his Works I now look on only as a System of Moral Ethicks; but think he knew no more of true Christianity than *Mahomet*. During this Time I knew nothing of true Christianity, nor was I informed what it was, till I had read a Book, intitled, *The Life of God in the Soul of Man*, a Book worth its Weight in Gold. I now began to see the Necessity of the New Birth, and immediately changed my Manner of Life; and as I had before made the dry Sciences the chief of my Study, I now applied myself wholly to the Scriptures, and read other Books only by the bye: The College seeing my Course of Life thus changed, began to despair of me as a Person disordered in my Senses. For two Years I underwent a Series of Temptations, and continual Buffetings of the Devil, which have, in a high Degree, qualified me for the Ministerial Office, in that I have experimentally tried all Things, and having suffered every Sort of Temptation, can suit my Advice to the different States and Conditions of other Peoples Souls, not to mention my being better qualified than other

People for the composing my Sermons, for I never preach'd any Thing but what I have experimentally felt; and whereas other People are forced to plod and rack their Brains whole Weeks in compiling a Discourse, I am enabled to compile as fast as I can write.

Mr. *Whitefield* farther affirms, that the Holy Ghost first appeals to the Understanding, then over-rules the Will, that its Experiences are not to be described to an unregenerate Person, any more than Colours to a Man born blind.

G. WHITEFIELD.

From the last Common Sense.

BThe following Letter coming from a Gentleman of the Blade, I dare not defer the Publication of it.

To the AUTHOR of COMMON SENSE.

King's Coffee-House,

Covent Garden, 2 o'Clock, Mon.

Hireling Base,

CHOW long dare you abuse the Patience of all good Men, with thy vile Weekly Libels? Thy Insolence shall be chastis'd in your own Manner: I will expose all your Faction if, on the immediate Receipt of this Billet, you do not lay down your Paper—I am able to do it:—My Heart is warm in the Cause of Virtue, and I have a Head capable to execute what my Heart shall conceive, and a Hand ready to defend my Cause—You will wonder who I am:—But,—

Read on, and tremble, recreant, coward base:—A ministerial politician I,

And helter-skelter have I storm'd about,
And Country Correspondents have I wrote,
And Gazetteers also.—A footra for the world,
And worldlings base;—I, and my laurell'd fore
Will soil the patriots vile:—I, with my prose
Political, will damn them,—damn them with
King *Cerberus*, and let the welkin roar:
While he, in odes, sings all of gentle peace,
And tidings does he bring, and lucky joys,
And golden times, and happy news of price.

Daftardly Cantiff, as I am a Gentleman and a Man of Honour, the Publick will pay proper Deference to my Lucubrations. I am not conceal'd under a Mask, as your Patriot Scriblers are: No, Sir, I am not ashamed of that Loyalty of Heart which runs in the Vein of our Family; as my Father wrote a Political Play for a late Administration, I will write Political Essays for this:

Fear we broad-fides?—No:—I will stand ye loof—Nor storm theatrick for desertion
From stage to brothels; nor finger pointed out
With detestation scornful, for branching horns
Expanding wide o'er all my horrid front.
Shall aught avail:—A footra for the world!—
I'll write, fight, rave, lie, swear, forswear,

Do any thing, in *W*—— virtuous cause;
And if, from some, I should not meet applause,
— We'll not lament therefore —
Si fortuna me tormento, sperata me contento.

PISTOL.

P. S. Obey my Commands, and let me
never hear of Common Sense more.

Craftsman, May 19. N^o 671.

The former Subject continued. (See p. 234.)

S I R,

ALL Men and Nations, before they are corrupted, have ever sought after those Forms of Government, which are most likely to preserve their *Liberty*. The *Gothic* seems to be the most excellent Plan, as it established so many Checks to the *Head of the State*, and the *executive Power*.—A Prince that could do no *Wrong*, an *hereditary State of Nobles*, with Power sufficient to restrain the Enormities of the *Minister*, and Wisdom to counsel the *Prince*, and an Assembly of *real Representatives of the People*, who could have no separate Interest to serve, is what Experience hath shewn us to be the best Form of Government, that we can wish or desire. But the Nature of all Government is founded on *Necessity* and *Protection*; to correct, but not to eradicate all those Motives of Action in Men, which set the whole World in Motion; that the Pursuit of *private Interest* shall not be detrimental to the *publick Welfare*.—No Government therefore can be perfect.—It must be liable to what it was form'd to correct.—The Passions of Men are the same.—Each endeavours to improve upon another, and surmount those Obstacles, which the Good of the whole Community had raised for their general Preservation; and as the Power of *protecting, rewarding, and punishing* is entirely in the *Crown*, the growing Nature of this Power must, by Degrees, eat up the *other Parts of the Legislature*. Nothing can preserve us, next to the divine Providence, (which hath so often interpos'd in our Favour) unless an *House of Commons* be really the *Representatives of the People*.

The Revolution made *annual Sessions of Parliament* necessary; but did not correct those *two Abuses*, which arose from their constantly meeting in the Reign of *Charles II.* that is, continuing too long the *same Parliament*, and so much influenc'd by the *Court*, as not to be esteem'd the *true Representatives of the People*.

The Nation, and even the *Parliament*, soon became sensible of this Error; which was an Evil, that was daily encreasing, not only from the Nature of the Thing, but from the very Means, that were necessary to support the Resolution of a *free, uninfluenc'd Parlia-*

ment; which was the avow'd Cause of the Revolution. This occasion'd *great and unusual Taxes*. The Management and Collection of them added farther Influence to the *Crown*, diametrically opposite, in some Measure, to the very End, for which they were raised. Self-preservation made it necessary to begin, at last, to correct this * growing Evil, tho' very gently at first; for they only inflicted Penalties on *Excise Officers*, who meddled in Elections. The *Commons*, next Year, attempted a *Place-Bill*, which the *Lords* refus'd, but sent them a Bill for *triennial Parliaments*, which was agreed to by the *Commons*, and refus'd the *Royal Assent*.

We then got a Step farther, towards preserving our *Constitution*; for no *Members*, except the Commissioners of the *Treasury*, *Customs*, and *Excise*, could be concerned in the Management and Collection of any Tax then granted, or any that should be hereafter granted. A small Progress was thus made to check this growing Evil; but the next Year we obtain'd, upon a valuable Consideration, what was then thought would prove a full Remedy; for which I shall quote *Bishop Burnet*, who speaks thus.

“† With the *Supply Bills*, as the Price or Bargain for them, the *Bill for frequent Parliaments* went on; and to this the *Royal Assent* was given. It was receiv'd with great Joy; many fancying that all their *other Liberties* were now the more secure, since this was pass'd into a Law. By these Means, it was hop'd that our *Constitution*, especially that Part of it, which related to the *House of Commons*, would again recover both its Strength and Reputation, which were now very much sunk; for *Corruption* was so generally spread, that it was believ'd every Thing was carried by that Method.”

We have therefore, upon this Point, the Opinion of one, who cannot be thought prejudic'd against that *Reign*. From hence we see the State of Affairs, and what was the general Opinion of those Times, with Respect to the Necessity of a Remedy, as well as the Means of procuring it; and it is probable that, in some Measure, it answer'd the Design, since we know that *triennial Parliaments* were not such certain Followers of a *Minister*, in every Thing, as they have been since the Repeal of that *Act*, which enlighten'd and enlarg'd the Understanding of a *Minister*, so as never to be in the wrong.

This Law was more effectual than is generally imagin'd, tho' far from being sufficient to prevent the corrupt Influence on the *Members*. The Shortness of Time to practise on them, and the quick Returns to new Elections are obvious. But the frequent Dissolutions of them, and their going so often contrary to the

* See 3, 4 *W. and M. Cap. 5.*

† *Vol. II. p. 133.*

Views of the Court, are Proofs of another Nature. It was not then thought, that to whomsoever the *Purse* was given, they should so implicitly follow *that Standard*, as they did in all long *Parliaments*, both before and since. A new *Parliament* was then the certain Consequence of a new *Ministry*. The Majority on each Side continued steady to those Principles, which they thought were for the Good of their Country, and would serve only upon those Views.—Neither Side durst go any great Lengths against *Liberty*; for both Sides were sensible how much it would affect their future Elections. Corruption was not then the single Principle of Government. The real, or mistaken Means, of preserving the *Constitution*, was the fundamental Principle of both Parties.—Both were sometimes in the Wrong; but the Majority of both were fixt to their Principle, and united against Corruption in the *House of Commons*. The Reason was obvious: It was Destruction to both Parties, who equally thought that they were pursuing the Good of their Country. It was visible, that real Party Differences would be extinct. The Names might remain as *Court-Tools*; but the *Parliament*, in Effect, would be only the Representative of its Pay-masters, and be a ministerial Party against the whole Nation; for there can be no other, if ministerial Influence should ever totally prevail. The Possession of Power in the Hands of a few, founded on pecuniary Methods, and governing against the general Opinion and Interest of the People, is certainly a *Faction*, in the strongest Sense of the Word; and such a *Faction* there must be, whenever a corrupt Influence prevails over all, under the Direction and Lash of a single Minister, who knows by Experience that all his Dependents and Protectors will forsake him, the Moment he can feed them no longer.—To return.

The Act for triennial *Parliaments* had not all the Effect, that could be wish'd. The Change of a Minister chang'd a *Parliament*, and the corrupt Influence of *Places* gave either Party the Superiority; but their ill Conduct, in Opposition to the Sense of the Nation, made Changes of both, which still the more evinc'd the Necessity of putting an End to this Influence.—The King lov'd *Prerogative* too well, tho' he came hither to relieve us from it. What we purchas'd has been already shewn. He would not part with any influencing Power, for his Life, or the Race of the *Stuarts*. But the next Family was to restore and preserve us in our Liberties, better than the *Revolution* had done; and the Nation enter'd into a new Compact, as the Con-
 G

Act was therefore pass'd * for the farther
 * of the Crown, and better securing the

Rights and Liberties of the Subject.—The Preamble says;

"Whereas it is requisite and necessary, that some farther Provision be made for securing our Religion, Laws and Liberties, &c."

The Act is chiefly founded upon the Want of those Securities, in his own Reign. But I shall consider them as a Renewal of our Constitution.—It was a Confirmation of all our former Rights, and consisted of 8 express Articles besides.

1. That the King shall be of our Religion. The Religion of a Sovereign is certainly very material. It gave a Bias to the Politics of the two preceding Reigns; and we had freed ourselves from it by effectual Struggles and Laws. But no Laws will cure the Corruption and Immorality of the People, first introduced by Charles II. In short, nothing will do it but the Example of a great and virtuous Race of Princes.

By the 2d Article of this Act, The Nation was not to be engaged in any War for the Defence of Dominions, which do not belong to the Crown of England, without the Consent of Parliament. This was also a wise Precaution, to prevent our becoming a Money-Province to foreign Dominions; and every Body knows how punctually it hath been observed; for nothing of this Kind hath been done without the Consent of Parliament.—The Affairs of Bremen, Verden, and Steinbofs are beneath our Notice.

By the 3d Article, The King was not to go out of the Dominions of the Crown, without Consent of Parliament; which was repeal'd in the first Year of his late Majesty's Reign. This Limitation was founded only upon the Notion that our Princes might like their native Dominions too well, and endeavour to make them, by new Acquisitions, the Seat of their future Grandeur, as well as the Touchstone of their Politics, and drain away the Money of this Country.

By the 4th Article it was ordain'd, That all Things properly cognizable in the Privy Council, by the Laws and Customs of the Realm, shall be transacted there, and all Resolutions taken there shall be signed by those, who advised and consented to them. This Article is likewise repeal'd, and a Cabinet Council substituted in its Stead, upon all great Affairs; which is, no Doubt, an Alteration very much to our Advantage, since a Cabinet Council is esteem'd, in all our neighbouring Nations, of much more Dignity than a Privy Council. Bishop Burnet, indeed, tells us, that it was repeal'd, * because it was impracticable; since it was visible that no Man would be a Privy Counsellor, on those Terms.—Great Advantages would certainly have arisen from such a Practice, and we should have known who at

will and consented to many of our past Measures, especially the late Convention; but it would, indeed, be very inconvenient to a Minister, who will take Nobody's Advice but his own. All Privy-Counsellors may now say that they did not advise any Measure, and even blame it afterwards; but the Danger of giving their Advice and Consent might be sometimes impracticable with their Tenure of the Minister's Favour, whilst he had the Purse in his own Hands.

By the 5th Article of the same Act, it was decreed, That Foreigners should have no Employments, &c.—This was a very right one too, and therefore justly preserv'd; for why should Foreigners take the Bread out of our Mouths?

By the 6th Article, No Person, who hath an Office, or Place of Profit under the King, or receives a Pension from the Crown, shall be capable of serving, as a Member of the House of Commons. If this had been preserv'd to us, the other Parts, perhaps, had never been repeal'd. To prevent the corrupt Influence of the Crown had long been contended for by the Lovers of their Country. But here they obtain'd too much; for they could not expect that the Law would be kept, whilst there were even triennial Parliaments; since a subsequent Parliament full enough of Place-men, tho' probably not half so many as have since had Seats there, were to be incapacitated, when the new Succession took Place. Thus all united in the same Interest—It was, to be sure, right Policy, not to make so many Friends of the Succession Losers by its taking Place. There was not in any Parliament before, a Struggle equal to this; nor where the Influence of the Crown was more apply'd. The Journals of Parliament are some Proof of it to this Day. I could enter into Particulars; but am loth to disturb the Ashes of the Dead. I shall therefore only observe that, in order to obtain the Repeal of this Article, they were forc'd to get an expedient Clause, as it was always call'd, and soon to take Effect, * that the Seat of every Member, who accepted of a Place, should be vacated, but might be capable of being Re-elected. This Act enumerated several Places, more than were mention'd in the former Laws, which a Member of Parliament was not capable of holding. No Office was to have a greater Number of Commissioners than before the first Day of the Meeting of that Parliament. The Clerks of Offices, in those Days, were so low as not to be thought as Representatives, and therefore no Provision was made against them in the Act.

The receiving a Pension from the Crown, being Pleasure, and the having any new Office, or Place of Profit, created since Oct. 25, 1705, made every Man incapable of being a Member. Were this to be strictly examin'd,

there might possibly be found some Members, who have sat in Parliament, and made Laws for us, under these Incapacities. The Spirit and Intention of this Law was to reduce the Number of Place-men even at that Time in the House. If Commissioners are not to be added, it is trifling with the Nation to supply their Number with Clerks. If no new Places are intitled to Seats there, it is imposing upon the common Sense and Understanding of Mankind to say, that the House ought to be fill'd with the Officers of the Army and Navy, besides mean, low, and obscure Men, because their Places happen to be somewhat older. At this Rate, the Band of Pensioners and Beef-eaters are more honourable, and have a better Right to sit in Parliament.

By the 7th Article of this Limitation Act, the Commissions of the Judges are made to continue, *quoadiu se bene gesserint*, and removeable only upon the Address of Parliament.—Every Body understood that this was intended to make the Judges for Life; but upon his present Majesty's Accession to the Throne, (I know not whether by Law, or Prerogative) one Judge was turn'd out. All were in the same Condition; and the other 11 were certainly glad to hold their Commissions again.

The 8th Article declares, That no Pardon under the Great Seal shall be pleadable to an Impeachment. But this seems to be growing obsolete, and will probably be of no Use; since Bills are now so well authoriz'd, and are a much surer Method of proceeding with Success against great Offenders.

To conclude, I cannot help observing, that the Repeal of the Articles above-mentioned was procured by the Whigs, when they were in Power, and that Nobody can think it was done from the Influence of their Party-Principle. It cannot be deny'd that those Ministers, who have acted under the Denomination and Sanction of that Party, without following the Principles of it, have done more real and lasting Mischief to their Country than the Tories were ever capable of doing, in their fullest Plenitude of Power. The Absurdity of their Party-Principle, carry'd to the Height, fills their Actions with Contradictions. The Whig-Principle being more for the Interest and Rights of the People, hath made it much more easy to betray us. This sufficiently shews the Errors on both Sides, and the Necessity of uniting in one national Party against any ministerial Party, by what Name soever call'd, which with its Places, Pensions, Army, Navy, Law, and the mercenary Part of the Church, besides all the other Means of Influencing, thinks itself more than a Match for the whole People.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.

HAMPDEN.

From

K k 3

* 4 Ann, C. 8.

From Old Common Sense, May 19.

I make no Apology to the Author of a Pamphlet just publish'd, entitled, *Marmor Norfolciense*, for inserting the Introduction to his most ingenious Essay, together with the Inscription, which is the Subject of it; since it is meant only to recommend it to the Publick to be read with the Attention, and receive the Applause it deserves.

IN *Norfolk*, near the Town of *Lynn*, in a Field, which an ancient Tradition of the Country affirms to have been once a deep Lake or Meer, and which appears from authentick Records to have been call'd, about 200 Years ago, *Palus*, or the Marsh, was discover'd, not long since, a large square Stone, which is found, upon an exact Inspection, to be a Kind of coarse Marble, of a Substance not firm enough to admit of being polish'd, yet harder than our common Quarries afford.

It was brought to Light by a Farmer, who observing his Plough obstructed by something, order'd his Servants to remove it. This was not effected without some Difficulty, the Stone being 3 Feet 4 Inches deep, and 4 Feet square in the Superficies, and consequently of a Weight not easily manageable. However, by the Application of Levers, it was at length raised, and convey'd to a Corner of the Field, where it lay for some Months intirely unregarded.

A Gentleman well known to the learned World, and distinguish'd by the Patronage of the *Mæcenæ*s of *Norfolk*, whose Name, was I permitted to mention it, would excite the Attention of my Reader, and add no small Authority to my Conjectures, observing, as he was walking that Way, that the Clouds began to gather and threaten him with a Shower, had recourse for Shelter to the Trees under which this Stone happen'd to lie, and sat down upon it in Expectation of fair Weather. At length he began to amuse himself in his Confinement, by clearing the Earth from his Seat with the Point of his Cane; and had continued this Employment some Time, when he observed several Traces of Letters, antique and irregular, which by being very deeply engraven, were still easily distinguishable.

This Discovery so far raised his Curiosity, that going home immediately, he procured an Instrument proper for cutting out the Clay that filled up the Spaces of the Letters, and with very little Labour made the Inscription legible, which is here exhibited to the Publick:

POST-GENITIS.

Cum lapidem hunc, magni
Quæ nunc jacet incola stagni,
Vel pede equus tanget,
Vel arator vomere franget,

Sentiet ægra metus,
Effundet patria sletus,
Littoraque ut fluctu,
Resonabunt oppida luctu:
Nam secunda rubri
Serpent per prata colubri,
Gramina vastantes,
Flores fructusque vorantes,
Omnia sædantes,
Vittantes & spoliantes;
Quamquam haud pugnaces,
Ibunt per cuncta minaces,
Fures absque timore,
Et pingues absque labore.
Horrida dementes
Rapiet discordia gentes;
Plurima tunc leges
Mutabit, plurima reges
Natio; conversa
In rabiem tunc contremet urbs
Cynthia, tunc latis
Florebunt lilia pratis,
Nec fremere audebit
Leo, sed violare timebit,
Omnia consuetus
Populari pascua lætus,
Ante oculos natos
Calceatos & cruciatus
Jam feret ignavus,
Vetitaque libidine pravus.
En quoque! quod mirum,
Quod dicas denique dirum,
Sanguinem equus fugit,
Neque bellua victa remugit.

These Lines be carefully copy'd, accompanied in his Letter of July 19, with the following Translation:

TO POSTERITY.

When'er this stone, now hid beneath the hke,
The horse shall trample, or the plough shall break,
Then, O my country! shalt thou groan distressed,
Grief swell thine eyes, and terror chill thy breast.
Thy streets with violence of woe shall sound,
Loud as the billows bursting on the ground.
Then through thy fields shall scarlet reptiles fray,
And rapine and pollution mark their way.
Their hungry swarms the peaceful vale shall fright,
Still fierce to threaten, still afraid to fight;
The teeming year's whole product shall devour,
Insatiate pluck the fruit, and crop the flow'r:
Shall glutton on the industrious peasant's spoil,
Rob without fear, and fatten without toil.
Then o'er the world shall discord stretch her wings,
Kings change their laws, and kingdoms change
The bear enrag'd th' affrighted moon shall dread;
The lilies o'er the vales triumphant spread;
Nor shall the lion, wont of old to reign
Despotic o'er the desolated plain,

Hence

Henceforth th' inviolable bloom invade,
Or dare to murmur in the flow'ry glade;
His tortur'd sons shall die before his face,
While he lies melting in a lewd embrace;
And yet more strange! his veins a horse shall
drain,
Nor shall the passive coward once complain.

Craftsman, May 26. N^o 672.

The following Letter (says Mr. D'Anvers)
fell accidentally into my Hands.

Cambridge, May 10, 1739.

To NICHOLAS P——N, Esq; Muster-master
General of all the ministerial Forces.

May it please your Honour,

BEING intirely devoted to the true ministerial Interest, and hearing that your Honour hath the sole Nomination and Direction of the Scribes in that Service, I most humbly beg Leave to make the following Application to you.

I am a poor Fellow of a College in this University, and in holy Orders; but not being able to get any spiritual Preferment, I shall be glad to serve my King and Country, (that is the Ad——m) in a political Capacity; which cannot be thought unbecoming our Function, since many Persons of the highest Stations in the Church have not been ashamed to list themselves in the same Cause.

I may say, without Vanity, that I am reputed a Man of some Learning; and observe, with great Grief, that no one Man of Letters hath been yet engag'd by you, in so glorious a Cause, except a certain Hackney Parson. Of what Religion or University he is, I know not; but I am sure his Performances are beneath those of a little Country School-master, or even a School-boy. Then as to Sir A.B.C. the Bastard-Organist, the mean Barister, Mr. Algernon Sidney, and the rest of the Gazetteer-Writers, I will undertake to out-do all their Out-doings, not excepting even Captain Pistol; who, as we are inform'd, hath lately engag'd himself in your Honour's Service, (see p. 240.) tho' he will, no Doubt, be of great Credit to our Party, both on his own, and his worthy Father's Account.

I will be very ingenuous with your Honour; and therefore freely confess that I have been heretofore esteem'd a Tory, or Jacobite; but I hope that will be made no Objection to my future Services; since it is well known, in this Part of the Country, that the most considerable Papists did our noble Patron very eminent Service, at the last Election, tho' I am sorry to say without any Effect.

In short, Sir, I shall be always ready to obey your Honour's Whistle, upon any Occasion, like your other Stipendiaries, and will therefore give you a little Cast of my Art, in Hopes of your Favour.

We hear that the City and Liberty of Westminster hath been lately infested with a most terrible Apparition, or Ghost, which continually haunts the Neighbourhood, and puts them under dreadful Apprehensions. It often frequents Westminster-Hall, crying Justice, Justice; and hath sometimes the Presumption to advance higher, crying Money, Money, Money. It often talks, in a confus'd and unintelligible Manner, of Treaties, Preliminaries, Conventions, standing Armies, Civil List, Secret Service, and Votes of Credit, to the great Astonishment of the Inhabitants; who, not being the wisest Men in the Kingdom, are apt to be frighten'd with any Bug-bear. At other Times, he speaks very freely of Kings, Ministers, Ambassadors, and Politicians of all Sorts.

Various are the Conjectures about this Apparition. Some People suppose it to be the Spirit of a departed Statesman, by calling so loudly and earnestly for Money; but by talking so freely of Kings, Ministers, Ambassadors, and Politicians, I take it to be the Ghost of some discontented Patriot, who still haunts the Place, where he once resided, and continues to disturb it with his posthumous Complaints.

I am credibly inform'd, that Application hath been made to several Right Rev. Prelates to lay this Spirit in the Red Sea; but they all desir'd to be excus'd from taking so long and expensive a Journey, lest something might happen to their Disadvantage, during their Absence, by the Death of their Brethren. They likewise represented, that their Attendance in Town was so absolutely necessary, for the publick Service, that they had not even Leisure to take proper Care of their own Dioceses, which had occasioned great Reflections upon them by the Mal-contents.

Since therefore those venerable Gentlemen are so much engag'd, I will undertake to lay this troublesome Spirit, by the Dint of my Quill, so as never to molest us any more, if your Honour should be pleas'd to retain me in your Service.

I am,

Your Honour's most dutiful,
And most obedient Servant,

CANTAB.

F §. To CALEB D'ANVERS, Esq;

S I R,

AS it is always a Mark of Respect to follow the Fashions of our Betters, I beg the Favour of you to give the following Queries a Place in your Paper, as long as Harlequin Horace's stand in another.

1. By whose Authority, from whose Instructions, or with whose Privy, were the six Characters drawn in a late Gazetteer? (viz. of the 18th and 19th Instant, where Britannia is made to draw the Characters of six of the chief in the Opposition.)

2. Who

2. Who gave the Author of that Paper Leave to stigmatize a noble Earl's Embassy? If he was guilty of exceeding his Instructions, why was he not punish'd? If he was not guilty, how dares this Fellow introduce the K—— himself to accuse him?

3. Who hath the Power to transfer the Secrets and proper Business of one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State from him, who possesses that Employment, to another; and how far is this consistent with the Act of Settlement, or our Constitution?

4. What does the saucy Scribbler mean, by styling the Lieutenantcy of Ireland an honourable Exile; or who dares circulate, at the publick Expence, a Paper expressly calculated to shew that we are under the absolute Dominion of a Subject?

5. Whether a certain august Assembly have not Reason to resent the Insults of this anonymous Hireling; and whether the Irish Nation may not expect it from every living Nobleman, who hath had the Honour to govern that Kingdom, to insist upon an Explanation of the Words, *honourable Exile*, as well as a Declaration who the Man is, who confers that Office upon any Nobleman as an Affront?

6. What Nobleman of any Merit, Distinction, or Virtue, will condescend to accept of this Office, or continue in it, after such a publick and ministerial Insult upon the Dignity of it?

7. Who will think themselves safe in an Employment; which, whenever they leave, shall be call'd *Horses* (that is, *Beasts of Burden*) turn'd adrift?

N. B. These Queries are not design'd to affront the M——, but to procure Justice to an injur'd Nation; for if it should ever happen that the very Person employ'd to persecute those, whom some People esteem'd *Libellers*, should also have a secret Commission to employ others in *Libelling*, without Fear of Prosecution, what would become of us, in such a Case? We might indeed, like one of the ministerial Writers, subscribe *Freeman*; tho' every Man, who is not a *Courtier*, might actually be a *Bond-slave*.

HIBERNICUS.

From the Daily Gazetteer, N° 1211.

AS the Temper of the Age seems to have a peculiar Turn to Raillery, I have often thought, a succinct History of the false Facts invented by the Patriots, digested into Chronological Order, under the Title of *Annals of the Opposition*, would afford a good deal of Diversion. We might from thence learn the Art of calculating Plams for all Seasons of the Year. As for Example; how to raise the Rumour of an Invasion in the Summer; how to forge Articles of Enquiry fit for the Notice of Parliament in the Winter; how to equip Fleets upon idle Errands in the Spring; and how to foresee dismal Designs, to be put in

Practice in the Autumn. We might be inform'd of the true Method of miscalculating the publick Debts; of the genuine Art of misrepresenting Treaties; and of the grand Secret of making Answers for crown'd Heads, of which themselves nor their Ministers never thought. But such a Work as this must not be expected soon, since the *Craftsmen* are already swell'd to 14 Volumes, and *Common Sense* is imitating his Brother *D'Anvers* in this Particular, as fast as he can. From such voluminous Records, it will be a laborious Task to draw out all the *Prophecies* that were never fulfilled, all the *Articles of Advice* which were without *Foundation*, and all the *Facts* asserted by such as never believed them.

Common Sense, May 26. N° 121.

Observations on a late Resolution of COMMON COUNCIL.

I Don't know any Thing that does more Honour to the City of London, than a Resolution pass'd in the Court of Common Council, April 17. A Discovery being made of a Combination relating to Work to be done for the City, (*viz.* Planking and Piling the Mansion-House) in which there were Reasons to suspect that a Member of the said Common Council was concern'd, after passing some Resolutions against those engaged in the Combination, a Bill was ordered to be brought in, by which that Court excludes their own Members from doing Work for the City.

By this Act they have shut their Doors against Corruption; they have not only forbid its Entrance there, but they have taken Care to clear that Court from the very Suspicion of being corrupt. Such a Reputation, once established, must produce all the Effects which naturally flow from good Government; and I look upon it to be the same Thing as if the House of Commons should pass a Law to exclude themselves from holding Places of Profit.

The Reasons for the last are much stronger than for the other; but yet the Common Council have so much in their Power, that this Resolution cannot fail of giving universal Satisfaction:—If Corruption should once creep in amongst them, the Court of Common Council would be like Pandora's Box, from whence continual Plagues would issue upon the City. You would see nothing but Combinations and Projects to squander away the publick Stock: Expences would be contriv'd, without the least Appearance of publick Use, merely for the Sake of giving a good Jobb to such and such Members: The City would be run in Debt: It would be devour'd by Procurators Money and Interest: Its publick Stock would be divided by the veriest Scoundrels in the City: All its Officers would get Estates, and the City itself be reduced to a State of Bankruptcy.

If a Point of universal Concern should be brought before them, the private Interest of 2 or 3 Members of that Court would carry it before that of the whole Society without Doors.

The City Chamberlain, for the great Merit of being their Treasurer, might find Means of erecting himself into the Master, or rather the Tyrant, of the City: By venal Cabals, and mercenary Associations, a Faction might be form'd in the Common Council, of which he might easily make himself the Head, that might be strong enough to out-vote those who were attach'd to the true Interest of the City: Truth and Reason would be borne down, and he obliged to give Way to the Strength of Numbers, and he that kept the Money would direct and controul the Resolutions of that Court, as absolutely as if they were his hired Servants.

If this or that Member should be found out in some corrupt Practices, would his Brethren condemn him, or so much as censure him, when a Majority of themselves had been guilty of the like? In a neighbouring Kingdom, a Man of Quality was lately condemn'd by his Peers for Murder (see p. 255.) but does any Body suppose, that if 12 of the 23, that found him guilty, had committed Murder themselves, they would not have acquitted him? When those that are to punish others, are themselves the greatest Criminals, there is nothing dangerous in such a City but Virtue and Honour.

*Thieves have authority for their robberies,
When judges steal themselves.*

What must become of that City which is to receive Laws from a Faction; what can it expect, but to see the Good of the Whole sacrificed to the private Interest of a few? Methinks I see their impudent Leader giving them Laws with a Nod, presenting dark and unintelligible Accounts, which are pass'd without Examination, while the abused Citizens without are told, with a Sneer, it is not fit they should know what is done with the publick Money, it being for secret Service.

The Chamberlain would be running the City into unnecessary and expensive Law Suits; then, not knowing how to manage them, make them up again by scandalous and more expensive Compositions; the Common Council, all this While, giving him the Thanks of that Court for every Blunder.

The Chamberlain would ingross all the beneficial Offices to his own Family, let them be never such worthless Animals.—You would see him, perhaps, build a Palace for himself, while the City wanted a House for its Lord-Mayor.

As such Measures must raise a Spirit against him, he might probably bid his Enemies Desistance, and tell them that, let them threaten as much as they pleas'd without Doors, he was sure of his Numbers within.

The Members of this honest Faction would tell those that complain'd, that they were a seditious Rabble; that they must submit to whatever the Majority of the Common Council should enact; that their Electors had no Right to call them to an Account; that, tho' what was alledg'd against the Chamberlain was true, they were obliged to support him, and would support him; that if they did not quietly submit, they would be given to understand that the Chamberlain had the City Militia of his Side, and would make them submit.

You would see this shameless Faction crowding to make him a Levee in a Morning, and hanging about his Office for their Wages when the Common Council was over. I don't doubt but he would have the Impudence to summon them every now and then in a publick Manner, and give them Orders what new Laws should be made to encrease his Power, and what new Jobbs set on Foot to encrease his Estate.

If ever the City of London should be reduced to such a deplorable Situation, what could the honest Part of the Common Council, or the few honest Aldermen do, when they could no longer be of Use to the City, but, in Justification of their own Characters, separate themselves from such an abandon'd Crew, and shun *Guild-hall* as if the Plague was there. This Method of proceeding would open the Eyes of the Citizens, and perhaps raise such a Spirit against the next Elections, as might occasion the excluding such a Gang of Thieves.

If once, I say, Corruption should creep into the Common Council, a Chamberlain might bring all this to pass without the least Abilities.—But we see a quite contrary Spirit govern there; their Chamberlain, tho' he is entrusted with the publick Money, is still their Servant; he is not charg'd, or so much as suspected of Jobbs, nor is his Family set astride upon the City, with Reins in their Hands, to ride with Whip and Spur.—As private Interest does not govern the Resolutions of that Court, their Opinions and Debates are free;—no Man there waits for the Wink or Nod of a corrupt Leader, before he knows which Side of a Question he is to take.

Yet this is the City, and this the Common Council, that hath been lately insulted by a false and scandalous List, representing them as a contemptible Body of Men: These are the People that are call'd *Rag-Dyers*, a Trade never heard of except in that List. (See p. 136.)

I will venture to promise that Man, who, for many Yeas past, hath been the avowed Enemy of this City and of this Common Council, that the *Rag-Dyers* will not change Colour; they have declared they will have this Man down, and the *Rag-Dyers* are Men of their Words.

SHALUN

SHALUM and HILPA: Or, *The ANTEDILUVIAN NOVEL.* By Mr. Price.

E'ER that the flood, with unresist'd sway,
Rush'd down from heav'n, and swept
mankind away,

Zilpah (for so my author) liv'd on earth,
And from the loins of *Cobu* trac'd her birth.
Thrice fifty beauteous daughters she could boast;
But the fair form of *Hilpa* pleas'd the most:
And when a girl of sev'nty (such her face,
So greatly blest with ev'ry blooming grace!)
A num'rous train of god-like youths essay'd
By various arts to win the matchless maid.

With these, inspir'd, two rival-brothers came,
And each in diff'rent terms avow'd his flame.
Harpath, the elder, rul'd with kingly pride
O'er all that vale which runs by *Tirzah's* side:
Tirzah, high hill! whose lofty top ascends
Where op'ning *China* to the south extends.
The neighb'ring ridges *Sbalum* crown'd with
trees,

Of ev'ry kind, to profit and to please;
And all that range of mountains call'd his own,
Which by the name of *Tirzah* still is known.
Harpath was proud, by ev'ry passion mov'd;
Sbalum was mild, by God and man belov'd.

Fame says, among the nymphs who liv'd of old
Cobu's fair daughters valu'd only gold;
So that the beauteous *Hilpa* with disdain
Heard ev'ry vow, and *Sbalum* sigh'd in vain.
Harpath alone the lovely maid beheld
With gracious smiles, for he in wealth excell'd:
His spreading flocks and num'rous oxen stray'd
Thro' ev'ry field, and browz'd in ev'ry shade:
Copious they cover'd all the vale which lies
Near where the mountain first begins to rise:
The fruitful vale each flowing stream receives,
That from its sides breaks forth in silver waves.

Harpath prevail'd; for scarce the damsel to'd
A hundred years that since her birth had roll'd,
E'er she confess'd what force is in the charms
Of pow'rful wealth, and yielded to his arms.
But he, by nature insolently great, [fate,
Lock'd down with scorn on *Sbalum's* humbler
Who durst, presumptuous, court the matchless
dame, [could claim.

When nought but rocks and mountains he
Sbalum enrag'd, and doom'd in tears to mourn
The much-lov'd fair from his embraces torn,
Pour'd out his curses from his inmost soul,
And pray'd the largest of his hills might roul
On his insulting brother's haughty head,
And in a moment send him to the dead.

Cautious and fearful, *Harpath* chose to stay
Safe in his vale, and loiter life away.
But when two circling centuries were past,
And half the third, the man breath'd forth
his last.

For as he sought in an unlucky hour,
(But who can fly from death's almighty pow'r?)
To reach a rapid river's farthest side,
Sudden he sunk beneath the swelling tide.

Still to this day the river bears his name;
And what does most our admiration claim,
Issuing it rises, to the sight display'd, [pray'd
From one of those large hills, which *Sbalum*
Might crush his haughty brother's hated head,
And in a moment send him to the dead.

Full eight-score years the beauteous *Hilpa* told;
(Far was that age, in those good days, from old)
And only fifty children sorrowing sigh'd
Around their mother, when her *Harpath* dy'd.
How many a youth with constant passion strove
To gain her friendship, and deserve her love!
But none than *Sbalum*, in his flame sincere,
Was thought more likely to obtain the fair.
Ten tedious years at length were spent, and now
Once more he prest her, and renew'd his vow:
Ten tedious years a widow liv'd retir'd;
For so the custom of the times requir'd.

Sbalum resolv'd, and studious to remove
The chief objection rais'd against his love,
Soon as her hand with *Harpath's* she had join'd,
Deck'd his tall hills with trees of ev'ry kind.
He knew the diff'rent nature of each soil, [soil:
And which wou'd best reward and crown his
The valu'd secret *Adam* did impart,
And taught him ev'ry vegetable art.
Nor serv'd it only to unbend his mind;
Profit at length was with his pleasure join'd:
For in few years his shaded mountains flood
All thick and cover'd with a rising wood;
While verdant walks and flow'ry lawns between
With mingling gardens beautify'd the scene:
The country round its smiling visage rear'd,
And like another paradise appear'd.

Pleas'd with young *Sbalum's* mild command,
the swains

In joyful numbers left th' adjacent plains:
High on the mount with him they chose to
dwell; [the well,
Some digg'd the trench, while others sunk
Or bor'd the destin'd tree from space to space,
To scatter water thro' the spacious place.

And now the hills, beneath his righteous
sway,

Look'd every year more beautiful and gay:
Hilpa herself with silent wonder sees [trees,
Each neighb'ring mountain thick with rusted
That awful seem'd to threat the distant skies:
A glorious sight to her admiring eye!

China records a letter *Sbalum* sent,
To tell the widow'd fair his full intent:
Its first simplicity I shall pursue,
And constant keep th' original in view.

*Shalum, Master of Mount Tirzah, to Hilpa,
Mistress of the Vallies. In the 783rd Year
of the Creation.*

DAUGHTER of *Zilpah*! how can I reveal
In equal words the mighty pain I feel!
Or how express the torment of my mind,
Since to my rival thou hast prov'd so kind?
No more the sun with pleasure I survey;
Dull are his beams, and hateful is the day!

Far from the object of my vows I rove,
And weep and wander in the gloomy grove.
These seventy years (nor hath it ought avail'd)
On *Tirzah's* tops thy loss have I bewail'd;
And from the raging passion sought for ease,
By raising shades, and planting sacred trees.
Gay as is *Eden*, to the ravish'd eye
My verdant hills in beauteous prospect lie,
With various fruits and annual herbage crown'd,
That shed their fragrant odours all around.
Here op'ning flow'rs their painted sweets display,

To court thy senses, and invite thy stay:
There limpid streams run murmur'ing to the sea;
And all the mountain is perfum'd for thee.
Come then, my fair! and be no longer coy;
How will thy heart exult with secret joy,
To view thy sprightly boys and blooming maids
Lead up the dance, in these delightful shades!
Think on the shortness of the life we boast,
Perhaps, an hour,—a thousand years at most:
But in few centuries our limbs decay,
And ev'ry youthful beauty dies away,
Like the tall cedar or the oak, which grow
Rank above rank on *Tirzah's* lofty brow.
These too, my fair! must gradually consume,
And ne'er be known by those who are to come;

Unless from forth their aged roots shall rise
Another wood, and tow'r amidst the skies.
Reflect with coolness on the lines I send,
And think on *Sbalum*, for he is thy friend.

She read, and secretly his suit approv'd;
The following answer seems to say she lov'd.

Her Answer, and the Remainder of the Poem
shall be in our next.

To MRS. BELCHER, on viewing her curious
SHELL-WORK.

WHAT first demands our care, 'tis hard
to tell,

Where all are wond'rous, and alike excel:
When diff'rent objects crowd upon the mind,
We with reluctance are to one confin'd.
So, when my eyes thy matchless work survey,
And by itself would every part display,
The finish'd picture rises to my view,
And what I give to all, to each is due.
The florist, thus, with curious eye, beholds
The various colours ev'ry plant unfolds;
Now the carnation, now the *vir'ius* charms,
And each by turns th' enamour'd fancy warms;

Till blended beauty ravishes the sight,
Greets ev'ry sense, and gives one full delight.
Who but would think such numbers must
require

One age to find, another to admire?
Those with such judgment, plac'd with so
much art,

As beauty, unobserv'd till now, impart;

The lights and shades in such proportion fall,
As if a *Raphael* had design'd them all:
Nor could the scene more dazzling bright
appear,

Were all *Arabia's* costly jewels there;
Or had you been possess'd of ev'ry stone,
Which glitters round an eastern monarch's
throne. [glows,

Here breathes the *sapphire*, there the *topaz*
What various hues from yonder *opal* flows!

In every shell some precious gem's express,
In one the *jacintb*, one the *amethyst*;

The fiery *granate*, and the *chrysolite*,
In some are temper'd by a pearly white;

With equal strength in others you descry
The starry lustre of *chalcedony*:

A thousand diff'rent charms, in diff'rent ways,
Unite and soften in a mingled blaze.

Arduous the task, unrival'd the design!

Such as no wit shall counterfeit, but thine.

O pious work! mankind are taught by thee

To trace the foot-steps of a deity; [wise,

Whilst every shell proclaims him great and

Which on the sunny beach neglected lies.

O wise employ! thy virtue thus made known,

Shall, with thy Maker's praises, blend thy own.

Her trifling conquests let *Clarinda* boast,
Sigh for brocades, be every coxcomb's toast.

Of dress and beaux let *Caelia* still be vain;

And *Coquetilla* lead the wanton train:

Far nobler transports are reserv'd for you,

Who sloth and want by arts and alms subdue,
And lift the wonders of the deep to view!

Behold, and blush, * *Fuervna's* heedless fair;

O think at least whose work your features are.

Shall balls and cards distinguish night and day,

And scandal wing the interval of tea?

Forbid it heav'n! such transient joys despise;

Exert yourselves, and emulate the wise:

Behold, and learn; and while our hearts you

warm, [charm

Extend his praise, who gave you power to

On Capt. L—NDS-Y's Recovery from a Fit of
Illness sometime ago at Bath.

YE nymphs of *Albion*, cease to mourn,

The shepherd lives for whom you burn

For heav'n, indulgent to your pray'r,

Makes L———y its peculiar care.

Each healthful spring, at Bath, supplies

With fresher beams his sparkling eyes;

His cheeks with fresh vermilion glow,

Amidst the white of falling snow,

And free from sickness, free from pain,

His well turn'd limbs new vigour gain.

Ye sacred nine, his health proclaim,

And tune your lyres to L———y's name:

L———y, who sends a fatal dart

To ev'ry beauteous virgin's heart;

To him they willing victims fall,

He conquers those, that conquer all.

L———y

* Ireland so call'd by *Jurnal*, *Solinus*, &c.

The LADY of the May: A MADRIGAL,
to MYRA.

1.
PRETTY wanton! come away,
Lovers month is always May;
Long have I (too long to say,) *do*
Sud thee, wanton thing, to play:
But alas! and well-a-day,
When I sue, you cry me, nay.
To requite my ling'ring stay,
Pay me now,—or never pay:
Nature smiles, and all is gay,
All is deck'd in best array:
Pretty wanton! come away,
Let us love the month of May.

2.
Little wanton! let us rove
Thro' the fragrant myrtle grove;
There to hear the turtle-dove
Cooing sonnets to its love:
(Ev'ry turtle equals *Joan*,
Tho' the god for beauty strove.
Let us then our time improve)
Sonnets may your scorn remove;
Coyness doth not thee bebove,
Wear the wreath, a shepherd wove;
Little wanton! let us rove
Thro' the fragrant myrtle grove.

3.
Ryther, wanton! come away,
Slight not love with cold delay:
Ev'ry field is green and gay,
Ev'ry baw-thorn's crown'd with May;
Jocund birds on ev'ry spray
Warble out the live-long day.
Ev'ry swain in shepherd's grey
Tunes his fav'rite roundelay;
Tender lambskins sportive stray,
Blossom-buds their sweets display:
Come, my wanton! come away,
And love all the month of May.

J. A. H.

PROLOGUE,

Spoken at the Theatre-Royal in Covent-Garden,
on Occasion of a Monument to be erected, by
Contribution, to SHAKESPEAR.

Written by Mr. Theobald, and spoken by
Mr. Ryan.

[The Curtain drawn up to solemn Music,
shows the Stage in Mourning.

MEthinks, to-night, I cast my eyes around
With awe, and seem to tread on hal-
low'd ground;
The vaulted scene assumes a gloom of dread,
Like that, where sleep the venerable dead:
And you, a pious train, in pleas'd array,
Are rang'd—the solemn obsequies to pay.
Immortal Shakespear! we thy claim admit;
For, like thy Cæsar, thou art mighty yet!

Thy spirit walks abroad; and at our hands
The honorary tomb, thy right, demands.—
That debt is paid; and, to thy mem'ry just,
We press to execute the pious trust.
Fast rise the marble, and long last the pile,
O'er which thy venerable bust shall smile!
A long respect must guard the sacred tomb,
Where flatt'ry's tongue is mute, and envy dumb.
Britons, with virtuous pride your merit
know;
You've done, what kings, of old, were fond to
Then, when the poet died, the monarch
mourn'd;
And, by command, his ashes were inurn'd.
The due respect, you've in this tribute
shown,
Bespeaks the poet's worth, and crowns your
And, haply, hence shall spring new tragic rage,
And distant Shakespear's rise to charm the stage.
What muse can languish, who may hope to
boast
A fame fresh-blooming at the publick cost?
For the dead bard, receive our thanks and
praise;
And make us sharers in the tomb you raise.
Ye fair, who have distinguish'd favours shown,
And made this poet's patronage your own;
Urge those, whose gen'rous hearts confess your
sway,
To follow, where your virtues point the way:
Then think, this pile his honour'd bones con-
tains,
And frequent visit—here—the lov'd remains.

THE FALSE MORNING.

THE morning rose bright as a blooming
bride,
Flush'd with enjoyment, from her lover's side;
So warm for winter, and so like the spring,
I thought to hear the foolish cuckow sing:
But see how soon the blessing turn'd a curse,
The weather and the ways, grew worse and
worse;
The clouds look sullen in the faithless skies,
And winds, like jealousy, in murmurs rise.
Sometimes a flatt'ring minute seem'd to smile,
But lasted, but a very little while.
Such is the morning of a married life,
But such the dirty journey with a wife.

A SONG.

NOT, *Calia*, that I'm more sincere,
Or am less apt to rove,
Do I a heart so faithful bear,
So constant in its love.
I faith, my *Calia*, like the rest,
From fair to fair I'd range,
But that it's more my interest
Still to love on than change.
All charms, which others recommend,
In thee alone I find;
Beauty and temper kindly blend
The handsome, and the kind.

That

Then why shou'd I inconstant prove?
Why other nymphs pursue?
When here I have all I cou'd love,
'Tis prudence to be true.

Upon a BIRD that died on a young LADY's
Bosom.

HAPPY bird, to *Chloe* dear!
Happy, for whom she shed a tear!
You alone her heart could move,
With sweetest notes of tender love;
Nor e'er desir'd to be free,
Best thro' the loss of liberty;
In her sight to prune thy wing,
O'er her charms to hop and sing.
When life could no longer last,
And thy little span was past,
She, such kindness to repay,
Grateful for thy pleasing lay,
Plac'd thee on her downy breast,
Softer than the softest nest,
There to take thy latest rest.
What more can man himself desire,
Than thus to live, and thus expire!

FLORILLA, on her working an Apron, beau-
tifully adorn'd with Flowers, &c.

HOW great your skill! that you can here
restore,
What your first fatal mother lost before;
Not readier, *Chloe* the dread word obey'd,
You wave your hand, and paradise is made.
Your tender plants at first appearance bloom:
And all in spring, where'er your fingers come.
By this we prove your power truly great,
You kill at pleasure, as you here create.
Not *Juno's* bird can brighter glories shew;
That nature painted, this is drawn by you,
Bright as the goddess, and as pow'rful too.
The birds neglect to sing their wonted love,
And leave the wood, to warble in your grove,
And as they seem to perch upon a spray,
With shame confus'd they swiftly haste away.
Beluding show! that your enchanting art
Shou'd baffle nature of its chiefest part.
No *Zeaxir's* birds snatch'd at false grapes in vain,
And *L-gl-y's* flowers play the cheat again;
Those grapes, 'tis true, deceiv'd the birds, but
then
These flow'rs deceive, not only birds, but men.
Shou'd fair *Narcissus* view thy fairer skill,
(*Narcissus* once, but now a *Daffodil*,) [state,
Conscious 'twould pine, and change its second
Once for love, so now 'twould die for hate.
This is a glorious paradise to view,
But the true paradise plac'd in you:
It may no winter to your beauties come,
And may they, like your flowers, ever bloom.

ALEXIS.

To Mrs. Bz—ke of Norwich.

Soft as thy song, could the fond muse impart
The charms of sound, or praise a sister art,

Paint the gay bliss, which from thy music
springs,
Or speak the joy, when fair *Christiana* sings,
In ev'ry heart thy pow'r should stand confest,
And the soft transport swell each feeling breast:
No longer *Rome* should brave the *British*
plain,
Nor first in fame a *Farinelli* reign:
Tho' great his pow'r, yet rear'd on art alone,
'Tis not for him to fix the vocal throne;
While worth like thine, the grateful verse shall
raise,
Or Br—ke and nature tune the soul to praise.
J. F.

COUNTRY INNOCENCE: Or, The RURAL
REPAST. [Continued from p. 200.]

WHEN, in the charming month of *May*,
The prospect round appearing gay,
Sweet *Flora*, (tho' not clad in silk,)
Trips o'er the verdant mead, to milk,
With pleasing air, and nimble tread,
And well-scur'd pail upon her head;
What eye can unaffected gaze?
What tongue forbear to speak her praise?
Such various charms, so void of art,
May justly warm a lover's heart.
But, ah!—if thus our bosom glows,
When *Flora* hastes to milk her cows,
How does the flame more fiercely burn,
When *Galatea* goes to churn!
How does her fair and beauteous face
Abound with blushes!—(sign of grace?)
How, her apparel please the sight,
(Emblem of innocence,) all white!
How, how does ev'ry thing conspire
To set beholders all on fire!

She, first, with brisk, repeated da'h,
The churn, within, begins to wash:
(Tho' sweet before, I'll pass my word,
And white, without, as any curd,)
Which, now made cool, as well as clean,
The charmer goes to fetch the *cream*;
Large vase, that thro' her care and pains,
Good store of clotted *cream* contains.
With lovely, strong, uplifted arm,
(A sight, that would an hermit charm!)
Into the churn, the straight does pour
The clutt'ring, conglobated show'r.
The lid pegg'd down, prepar'd she stands;
Her pure, plump, healthful-looking hands
Upon the sturdy *staff* soon seize,
And exercise the same with ease.
With graceful air, and good intent,
This analysing implement,
While, up and down, she briskly moves,
Unnumber'd *sylphs*, and little loves,
Fly round, and eagerly invest
Her beauteous face, and neck, and breast.
Some on the churn-staff perch—and loane,
To ride upon her arms, do come;
(Endearing, sweet, enchanting woman!)
Which keep, now triple-time, now common.

L l z

Her

Her heaving *bubbies* too advance,
And join in the delightful dance.
And, while her hands the cream thus shake up,
Her lab'ring lungs the concert make up.

O!—what a curious clitter-clatter
'Midst all this *flurr* of *milky matter*,
What a rare, rumbling, jumbling noise
Is heard, while thus the work she plies!
A sound—(pray, think me not too partial,)
Than that of *rub-a-dub*, more martial:
Nay,—(not incurring *Argyle's* anger,)
Than the shrill trumpet's loudest clangor.
A sound,—that does to love invite us,
And not, to murder folk, incite us:—
Fills not the heart with dire alarms;
But, with sweet consolation, charms.
What wag, that sees such moving strokes,
Can long forbear his am'rous jokes?
What wretch, that bears the sound, can mourn?
'Tis said,—*there's comfort in the churn*.
What mortal, now, can longer bear
To hear *Sonnetta* scream an air?
Or, who admire—(there's nothing in it!)
Proud *Giga* tinkling on her spinnet?
When the pale, town-bred, tawdry lass,
Is blund'ring at a thorough bass,
I'm really fill'd with great surprize,
That any shou'd endure the noise.
Compare it with the *churning-art*,
And 'tis not worth one single f—t.
From simple words, I can't refrain:
But, (truth!) I love, sir, to be plain.
When once the charming *churn* appears,
And the clean girl delights our ears,
The cream thus nimbly agitating,
All other musick then seems grating.

Nor is this all;—(as shall be shewn;)
Not to our eyes and ears alone,—
What's pleasing, too, to other senses,
Good *Galatea's* art dispenses.
Our noses of the charms partake,
Of the melodious, manly shake.

Proceed we therefore now to tell
Of that most dear, delicious smell,
The chearing *churn* in plenty yields,
While she the staff so stoutly wields.

None can express the grateful odour,
That's caus'd by all this pretty podder,
When thus the cream so well is shook:
But,—when the lid quite off is took,—
O!—what a glorious, sweet perfume
Perceive we up and down the room!
What a rare, aromatick scent
Rises,—while she, with finger bent,
Stroaks down the *churn*!—quite thro' the house,
How does it, then, itself diffuse!

And, now, the damsel, (never slow,)
Follows her sweet, repeated blow,
So lustily she lays about,
That we securely may, (no doubt,)
Now promise to her arms success,
And soon expect a glorious mess.
Soon may we stuff our blest abdomens;
Hark, and behold the happy omens!

The daffier closely now embrace'd,
Sticks, in the clinging cream so fast,
That ev'ry rise portends a fall,
And lifts up cream, and churn, and all.
A few more strokes the staff unfetter:
See!—the brave girl has got the better.
The buttermilk begins to plash;
And the new butter cries,—come, wash!

[To be continued.]

The Rev. Mr. De C——r's Advice to a Clergyman in S——y.

YE rectors, vicars, all draw near,
And hear the counsels of De C——r:
De C——r, with saving knowledge fraught,
Once op'd his mouth, and thus he taught.

Would you, my friend, increase your state,
And shun the sin of being poor;
Be your acquaintance very few,
Forfake your old, and seek not new:
No splendid feasts to friends afford,
And ne'er let plenty crowd your board:
Nor keep your cellars stock'd with liquors,
Lest that shou'd tempt your neighbouring vicar
To come by way of friendly visit,
To ask you frequently, *How is it?*
For vicars love, sir, to resort
To houses that are stock'd with port,
Like bees about a pot of honey,
Or sharpers round a still with money.
But if by chance some friends should come,
And catch you unawares at home;
Complain, you unprepar'd are taken,
And let them dine on eggs and bacon.
For liquor when you come to call,
Be sure your bottles be but small:
One pint at once may well suffice,
Nor grudge the pains of calling twice:
For this is done, sir, with design
To spend the time and save the wine.
So bankers, when men draw too fast,
That they may make their money last,
And find occasion of delay,
In coin of smallest value pay:
And this they've often found expedite,
To stop their duns, and save their credit.

Would you in church advanced be,
And soon arrive at dignity;
Shun th' odious name of orthodox,
As sailors do quicksands and rocks:
For this see W——r—d his case,
Who for his learning's in disgrace;
While C——t, the essay writer, lives
In expectation of lawn sleeves.
In politicks be alamode,
This to preferment is the road:
Toast W——r—d's health, where'er you dine,
As well becomes a good divine.
Sir W——r—d next does claim the glass,
And eke his son, who is no ass:
And may the borough still have grace,
To chuse these two of noble race.

Sure *B—* will not presume t' oppose
 Such bright, such doughty wights as those.
B— has his merit, that is own'd,
 Good sense, good nature's in him found;
 But then, all's lost in opposition,
 And publick-spirited ambition:
 Armies he'll hate, at place-men flout, fir,
 And with them always make a rout, fir;
 And therefore he will never thrive,
 Nor can he serve one friend alive.
 But here I leave politick strife,
 T' instruct you in domestick life.

If parish duty be obdurate,
 And you are forc'd to keep a curate,
 Before you give the drudge admittance,
 Allow him but a slender pittance;
 His meat and lodging you'll provide,
 And give him some small sum beside:
 But let him not be highly fed,
 High life may chance to turn his head.
 When you and spouse on dainties fare,
 For him some coarser food prepare;
 And if with wine you should regale,
 Let him have nought but humble ale;
 And thus you always will be sure
 To keep him fit to serve your cure:
 If you by chance should be o'ertaken,
 Away goes drudge, and saves your bacon.
 So country 'quire, who loves *Ocher*,
 Commands his coachman to be sober:
Thomas, who moderates the reins,
 Must ne'er intoxicate his brains;
 But 'quire, who lolls in coach at ease,
 May get as drunk as e'er he please.
 Wou'd time permit, I cou'd impart
 More secrets of the saving art;
 As when to gather tythe, or let it,
 Or how, when money's due, to get it.
 But lo! the morning wears apace,
 Adieu.—I must attend his Grace.

To Mr. COMMON SENSE.

Political Club, May the 1st, 1739.

S I R,

The following Lines were the Production of
 a few Hours in this Society; our Hearts be-
 ing loaded with Care at the reading your
 last Journal, one of the Club produced the
 third and last Heat of the *European Race*,
 which immediately removed our Melancholy;
 so we agreed to club Couplets by Way
 of Explanation.

C—t authors may scribble and scribble agen,
 Till they've exhausted their fire and
 blunted their pen;
 And scour and scour to obliterate spots, [blots.
 From paper, like musick, that's cover'd with
 I hope they will own, tho' they scribble for
 hire,
 The true *English* breed has lost all its fire,
 And *B—*'s neglected the trophy that's nigh
 her.
 The sword, which has formerly been her de-
 fender,
 May now serve as steel, and her flags to make

Her ships now in harbour, are pester'd with rats,
 Which live upon plunder defying the cats:
 Her heart is blown up in the air, like a rocket,
 While a *Frenchman* and *Spaniard* is picking her
 pocket:

Her sailors not troubled a reckoning to keep,
 And boys that were wakeful are now fast asleep.
 Don *Seb.* to remove the bone of contention,
 Advises don *B—* to take down the c—n.
 Then drop your complaints, and let enmity cease,
 I'm sure we may say, we have purchas'd a p—

From the Craftsman.

To a LADY, with Mr. WALSH'S Defence of
 WOMEN.

F Acetious *Walsh* hath here with polish'd
 art,

Defended nature's most consummate part;
 Whilst in his finish'd pages shine display'd
 The prudent matron, and the learned maid.

See where *Christina*, *Sweden*'s crown resign'd,
 With philosophic gems adorns her mind,
 'Midst sycophants and fools disdains to dwell,
 Flies from the palace, and enjoys the cell.

Here *Boadicea* Britain's foes purges, [ruins.
 And *Rome* in sanguine streams her vengeance
 Now fam'd *Elixa* triumphs on the main,
 And blasts the projects of aspiring *Spain*;
 Asserts a real empire o'er the waves,
 And *Philip* with unerring thunder braves.

Here, whilst fresh wreaths immortal *Nassau*
 gains,

Queen of all hearts ador'd *Maria* reigns;
 Her hero's toils with manly spirit shares,
 Augments his glory, and divides his cares.

See, *Zara*, see what graces women boast;
 With what bright rays they gild *Britannia*'s coast!

Nor decks superior virtue courts alone;
 A rural village vaunts, with pride—your own.
 Would, copying you, our females mend their lives,
 The world would view, with envy, *British* wives;
 Reclaim'd mankind would act by wisdom's rules,
 And women prove the scorn of none—but fools;
 Woman, fair angel, of ætherial birth,
 No *Walsh* would need to vindicate her worth!

POSTSCRIPT.

The late ingenious Mr. *Walsh*, in the
 Close of his justly celebrated Defence of the
fair Sex, hath the following Passage, which
 I think not unapplicable to a certain Gentleman
 now living.

"We ought to despise all those little Pre-
 tenders to Business, who thrust themselves
 into the Management of Affairs, against
 every Body's Will but their own; and having
 neither Virtue, nor Prudence enough to re-
 tire from it, at the universal Murmurs of
 the People, are generally made Sacrifice,
 at the last, to the just Resentment of an
 enraged Nation—These are those blazing
 Comets, whose fatal Glories portend De-
 struction to a Government."

SONG,

S O N G.

FORGIVE, my *Silvia*, if I strove
To free my heart from fruitless love,
'Twas what your coldness made me do;

Be you but kind,
And you shall find,
Your faithful shepherd will be true.

As slaves who fight for liberty,
Oft but confirm their slavery;
So tho' I strove to break my chain,
And tho' I swore
I'd love no more,

The vain attempt confirms your reign.
Since thus, my fair, you rule my fate,
At least in pity do not hate;
Like a good prince your pow'r employ,
The pow'r you have,
O! use to save,
Not, like a tyrant, to destroy.

M A R C O.

MARCO with starch solemnity,
Doth ev'ry thing by rule;
Yet spite of forms, and gravity,
All who have sense must plainly see,
Marcio is but a fool.

So, I have known, with widow air,
And drest in black all o'er,
Corinna go to ev'ning pray'r,
Yet all who saw *Corinna* there,
Cry'd,—look! d'ye see the whore.

To *Venus*, in the Character of *Florella*, an
ANAGRAM on mending a Glove.

IF from the Glove you take the G,
It turns to Love, the son of thee:
So L from Love, and take in D,
Out flies a Dove, the bird of thee.
To G and D put O between,
Of that make me, of which thou'rt queen.
Shou'd that seem vain to wish in us,
I'll wish again, to wish for thee.
Add D before the O and G,
Still I'll adore, and bark for thee.
Put H before the O and G,
I'll snort, and snore, and grunt for thee.
H stands for H—, suppose him prince,
He'll join the — coss, and take thee hence.
He'll couple Love and Dove together,
And fly above the L—d knows whither.

From the GREEK: see *Alcibiades* 1.

Στέφος, πλέων τοῦ εὐρον, &c.

AS once a flow'ry wreath I wove
To deck the head of her I love,
Cupid, that urchin god, I found
Asleep, with blushing roses round;
Straight by the wings I caught him up,
And sow'd him headlong in my cup,
Then drank him down.—Too rashly blind!
For soon the dire effect I find:
Thro' every part the wanton stings,
And tickles with his little wings.

NIGRINUS.

To a LADY, on her PICTURE.

MEAN beauties, the kind pencil's aid
Desire,
Defects to lose, and graces to acquire; [light.
Their pictures, not their persons, charm the
Original and copy, here are bright;
Your charms the pow'r of flatt'ring arts trans-
scend; [mend.
Nor hand, nor thought, can perfect beauty
P. M.—

The Orders of his Excellency R— N—
Esq; Governor General of the Divisions at
Bath.

SOME come here for pleasure, and others
for health; [wealth;
Some come here to squander, and some to get
To these all our subjects, here merrily meeting,
We governor N— do send out our greeting.
Whereas it to us has been fully made known,
Some queer folks presume to have wills of
their own, [as these,
And think, when they come to such places
They've unlimited license to do as they please;
Whence frequent disorders do daily arise:
To prevent such abuses whate'er in us lies,
We publish these rules, consider'd at leisure,
And expect due observance; for such is our
pleasure.

When you first come to Bath, in whatever
condition, physician;
Whether sick or in health, you must have a
As they'll equally take inordinate fees;
You are at your own liberty; chuse whom
you please!

The doctor will find there is absolute need,
That friend *Jerry Price* must be sent for to bleed;
Next, some drops or some pills prepar'd with
due care.

To prevent all infection from water or air;
Then drink at the pump, or bathe without fear.
When you first fall out there are different calls,
At *Hayes's*, or *Lovelace's*, money for balls;
As nought in this world is done without bribe,
Leake, *Sinnet*, or *Morgan*, expect you'll subscribe:
When this part is over, then live at your ease;
Game, drink, or fornicate, just as you please.
When your money is spent, march off with-
out trouble, [bubble.

Secure, who comes next, will be just the same
The Motto to the Play of *Edward and*
ELEONORA.

SUSPICIONE si quis errabit sua,
Et rapient ad se quod arripit communis amicum,
Spulset, nudabit animi conscientiam.

PHÆDRUS.

THE confidant wretch, whose black suff-
erance raves,
And what is common claims as his, alone,
Invades the general privilege of knaves,
And by his folly makes his knavery known.

T H E

THE Monthly Chronologer.



ON the 27th of last Month, came on at *Dublin* the Trial of the Rt. Hon. *Henry Barry*, Lord Baron of *Santry*, for the Murder of *Laugblin Murphy*, a Running Footman, and formerly his Father's Servant, in *August* last at *Palmstoun* Fair. About 8 in the Morning, his Lordship was brought to the Parliament-House, the Ax being carried before him. At 10 the Lord Chancellor, Lord High Steward on this Occasion, went thither in State, first to the House of Lords, and from thence in Procession to the Commons House, the Place appointed for the Trial, which began about 11, and lasted till 6 in the Evening; when the Lords, 23 in Number, unanimously pronounc'd him Guilty; after which, Sentence was given for his Execution, and his Lordship was guarded by a Company of Soldiers to Newgate. The Lady Dowager *Santry*, with several Persons of Distinction embark'd for *England*, to solicit his Majesty's Pardon for the said Lord: And several Lords presented a Memorial to the Lords Justices, to be transmitted to his Majesty for that Purpose, Lord *Santry* being, it is said, very young, and the last of the Family.

The *Western Mail* was robb'd on the 28th of last Month, by a single Highwayman, near *Sherburn* in *Dorsetshire*. He was apprehended a few Days after, in *Devonshire*, and committed to *Exeter* Goal.

THURSDAY, May 3.

A Message was deliver'd to the Hon. House of Commons from his Majesty, relating to a Provision for his Royal Highness the Duke, and the Princesses.

'Tis said, that upon the King's Demise, a Parliamentary Provision will take Place for their Royal Highnesses, the Duke of *Cumberland*, the Princesses *Amelia*, *Carolina*, *Louisa*, and *Mary*, (in case they survive) settling on the Duke 15,000*l.* yearly, and on each of the said Princesses 6000*l.* yearly.

SATURDAY, 5.

The Sessions ended at the *Old Bailey*, when the 8 following receiv'd Sentence of Death, viz. *Abr. Nash*, for robbing Mr. King on the Highway between *Kensington* and *Knightsbridge*.—*Yane Smith*, for picking the Pocket of Mr. Spragg of a gold Watch.—*Rich. Sedgwick*, for Horse-stealing.—*Rich. Tobin*, for robbing *Misled Crosby*, a Drawer, in the Fields near the *London-Spaw*.—*John Trotter*, for stealing out of Mr. Daughby's Shop a large Quantity of Linen Goods. (He was recommended by the

Jury for Mercy.)—*Abr. Wells*, the Butcher at *Enfield* (who was convicted of Perjury on *Bonner* the Highwayman's Trial) and *Daniel Wells*, for Horse-stealing. There were three Indictments likewise against them for Sheep-stealing.—*John Stevens*, for stealing a silver Tankard, the Property of *Edward Plummer*, Four were burnt in the Hand, and 47 order'd for Transportation.

THURSDAY, 10.

His Majesty's most gracious Message to the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Parliament assembled.

GEORGE R.

HIS Majesty being truly solicitous for the Peace and Welfare of these Kingdoms, and desirous to contribute, as far as in him lies, towards preserving the publick Tranquillity, and the Balance of Power in *Europe*, has concluded with the King of *Denmark* a Treaty, agreeable to that which expired in 1737, and has ordered the same to be laid before this House; that he may have their Support, and Concurrence, in making good the Engagements which he has thereby entered into.

And as Events may happen, during such Time, as it may be impossible for his Majesty to have the immediate Advice and Assistance of his great Council, upon any Emergency, arising from the present Posture of Affairs in *Europe*, which may nearly concern the Honour, Interest, and Safety of these Kingdoms; he hopes he shall be supported by his Parliament, in making such further Augmentation of his Forces, either by Sea or Land, as may become absolutely necessary; and in concerting such Measures, as the Exigency of Affairs may require: And whatever Augmentations shall be made, or Services performed, an Account thereof shall be laid before the Parliament at their next Session.

SATURDAY, 12.

The humble Address of the Right Honourable the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Parliament assembled.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Parliament assembled, beg Leave to express the grateful Sense we have of your Majesty's Royal Care and Attention for the Peace and Welfare of these Kingdoms, and for preserving the publick Tranquillity, and the Balance of Power in *Europe*.

At the same Time, permit us to return your Majesty our humble Thanks, for having concluded a Treaty of defensive Alliance with the

the King of *Denmark*, and for having ordered the same to be laid before us; and to assure your Majesty of our Concurrence and Support, in making good the Engagements which you have thereby entered into.

We also beseech your Majesty, to accept the strongest Assurances, that we will zealously and cheerfully support your Majesty, in making such further Augmentation of your Forces, either by Sea or Land, as may become absolutely necessary, by Reason of any Emergency, arising from the present Posture of Affairs in *Europe*, which may nearly concern the Honour, Interest, and Safety of these Kingdoms; and in concerting such Measures, as the Exigency of Affairs may require.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

My Lords,

I Take this Address, as a real Mark of your Zeal and Affection for my Person and Government. You may depend upon it; that the Confidence, which you repose in me, shall be made use of, with the strictest Regard to the true Interests of my People.

Came on this Morning, at the Court of King's Bench at *Westminster*, a Trial at Bar upon four Issues directed out of the Court of Chancery, relating to the last Will and Testament of *Richard Norton*, late of *Southwick* in the County of *Southampton*, Esq; deceased, * which lasted till between 5 and 6 on Sunday Morning, when a special Jury, consisting of Gentlemen of the County of *Southampton*, found in favour of the Defendants, viz.

1. That the Will was not duly executed within the Intent of the Statute of 29 *Charles II.* for preventing Frauds and Perjuries.
2. That the Codicil to the Will was not duly executed.
3. That *Mr. Norton* was not of a sound Mind at the Time of making his Will.
4. That he was not of a sound Mind at the Time of making the Codicil.

The Plaintiffs were *Nicholas Paxton*, and *John Lawton*, Esqrs. on Behalf of the Crown; and *Francis Thistlethwaite Whitehead*, Esq; and others, Defendants. The Counsel for the Plaintiffs were, the Attorney and Solicitor General, *Mr. Serjeant Eyres*, *Sir Thomas Abney*, *Mr. Noell*, *Mr. Lloyd*, and *Mr. Talbot*; for the Defendants, *Mr. Cbute*, *Mr. Bootle*, *Mr. Wilbram*, *Mr. Gundry*, *Mr. Murray*, and *Mr. Denmiffen*.

This Day came on at *Edinburgh*, the Election of a Peer to serve in Parliament for *Scotland*, in the Room of the late Earl of *Selkirk*, when the Rt. Hon. the Earl of *Morton* was unanimously chosen.

THURSDAY, 24.

This being the Anniversary of the Birth-

Day of his Highness Prince *George*, eldest Son to his Royal Highness the Prince of *Wales*, there was a prodigious Concourse of Nobility, Quality, and Gentry, at *Norfolk-House*, to congratulate their Royal Highnesses on the happy Occasion. Sixty Youths, under 12 Years of Age, Sons of eminent Citizens, having formed themselves into a Lilliputian Company of Foot Soldiers in proper military Cloathing, were brought in Hackney Coaches to *Norfolk-House*; where the Prince order'd them to a-kight and enter; they march'd in accordingly with Drums beating, Colours flying, and Musick playing before them; they were admitted into the great Drawing Room, and had the Honour to kiss the Hands of Prince *George*, Prince *Edward*, and the Princess *Augusta*; the former had a Hat and Feather with a Cockade. After they had perform'd their Exercise, their Captain, Master *Warman*, (Son of *Mr. Warman*, who was concern'd in the Fire-works at the Christning of the said Prince) humbly requested of his Royal Highness that Prince *George* might be their Colonel, which his Royal Highness, according to his wonted Good-nature, pleasantly comply'd with; upon which the Colours were left in the Possession of the young Prince. His Royal Highness the Prince of *Wales* order'd them to be entertain'd at the *Gloucester-Tavern* in *Pall-Mall*, and afterwards to be carefully conducted home to their Parents.

WEDNESDAY, 30.

The Birth-Day of their Royal Highnesses, the Princesses *Amelia* and *Caroline*, was celebrated, when the former enter'd into the 29th, and the latter into the 27th Year of her Age.

Two of the 3 condemn'd Malefactors were this Day executed at *Tyburn*, viz. *Rich. Tobin*, and *Abraham Wells*. *Trotter* was pardon'd, and the other 5 repriev'd for Transportation; *Nash* but the Day before. *Child* the Highwayman, condemn'd last *January*, was also pardon'd.

By Letters from the *West-Indies*, dated in *February* last, we have an Account, that *Capt. Reddish*, commanding one of his Majesty's Ships of War, standing into Port St. *Piers* in *Martinique*, was hailed by the Captain of a French Ship, who told him, That as he had the Honour to command a Man of War belonging to the King of France, he must not anchor there without his Leave; to which *Capt. Reddish* reply'd, That as he had the Honour to command a Man of War belonging to the King of Great Britain, he would anchor there, when and where he pleas'd; and that if he thought fit to dispute it, he would fall a long Side of him immediately. Some *Barbadoes* Gentlemen, then at *Martinique*, coming off to wait on *Capt. Reddish*, the French Man of War's Boat, that was rowing from the Shore to the Ship, took the

* See the Copy of his Will, in which he makes the Parliament his Executors, in the *London Magazine* for *February*, 1733.

the *Barbadian*, and carried them on board the French Man of War; whereupon Capt. Red-
sent his Lieutenant to demand instant Satisfaction for the Insult done to the King of Great Britain's Subjects, even under the Nose of one of his Ships of War. On this the French Captain disown'd any Orders of his to the Officer in the Boat, reprimanded him for meddling with the Gentlemen, and made him ask their Pardon; and thus the whole Matter ended, intirely to the Honour of our Captain, and to the Satisfaction of us all; who wish to hear the *antient English Language* hold on board our Ships.

MARRIAGES and BIRTHS.

DR. Ballard, of *Steeple-Langford, Wilts*, to Miss Fanny Goring, Daughter to Sir Harry Goring, Bart.

Sir Alexander M'Donald of *Slate*, Bart. to Lady Peggy Montgomery, Sister to the Earl of *Glinton*.

Mr. Butler, of *Braintree in Essex*, to Miss Rogers of the same Place.

Tho. Lennard Barret, Esq; to Miss Anna Maria Pratt, Daughter of the late L. C. J. Pratt.

Mr. Joseph Pickering, of the middle Temple, to Miss Freer of *Leamington*.

Capt. Stapleton, a *West-India* Commander, to Miss Hinckley of *Poplar*.

Sir Robert Eden, Bart. to Miss Davison.

Tho. Apreece, Esq; to Miss Endfield of *Soho*. Henry Holt Henley, Esq; to Miss Hare, an Heiress of 15,000*l*. Fortune.

Dr. Bedford, an eminent Physician of this City, to Miss Smart.

Mr. Robert Radcliffe, an eminent Attorney in *Thomas-street*, to Miss Lawrence, an Heiress of 10,000*l*. Fortune.

The Lady of *Augustus Schutts*, Esq; Privy-Purse to his Majesty, safely deliver'd of a Son.

The Lady of the Lord Viscount *Andover*, eldest Son to the Earl of *Berkshire*, safely deliver'd of a Son.

The Lady of Baron *Stambourgh*, chief Secretary of State here for the Affairs of *Hanover*, also safely deliver'd of a Son.

Countess of *Drogheda*, of a Daughter.

DEATHS.

CHARLES Forman, Esq; who serv'd in the War-Office in *Q. Anne's* and the Beginning of *K. George Ist's* Reign, and was afterwards Secretary to Mr. Law, Comptroller-General of the Finances in *France*. He was Author of several Political Pieces and Letters, sign'd CAMILLUS.

Sir James Elphinstone, of *Logie*, Bart. Advocate in *Scotland*.

Rev. Mr. Richard Daniel, Dean of *Down* in *Ireland*, Author of several Poetical Pieces.

Rt. Hon. George Montague, Earl of *Halifax*, Viscount *Sunbury*, and Baron *Halifax*, Auditor of the Exchequer, one of his Ma-

jesty's most Honourable Privy Council, Knight of the *Bath*, Chief Ranger of *Salcey Forests* in the Counties of *Northampton* and *Bucks*, and of *Busby Park* in *Middlesex*.

Capt. Brett, one of the Elder-Brothers of the *Trinity-House*.

Dr. Hallings, Physician in Ordinary to his Majesty.

Sir Wilfrid Lawson, Bart. a Minor.

Sir Tho. Moncrief, Bart. at *Glasgow*.

Mr. Tho. Cox, formerly an eminent Grocer in *Aldersgate-street*, one of the People call'd Quakers, and Father to the Rt. Hon. the Countess of *Peterborough*, and the Rt. Hon. the Lady Dowager *Preston*.

Aged above 80, the Rt. Hon. the Countess of *Stafford*, Great Aunt to the present Earl.

Humphrey Gore, Esq; Col. of the King's own Royal Reg. of Dragoons, &c.

Sir Roger Mossyn, Bart. for many Years Knight of the Shire for the County of *Flinch*. He is succeeded in Dignity and Estate by his eldest Son, now Sir Thomas Mossyn, Bart.

Jeremiah Dummer, Esq; formerly Agent here for *Masachuset's Bay* in *New England*.

Joseph Nutt, Esq; formerly an eminent Brewer at *Execution-Dock*.

Rev. Mr. Welchman, Archdeacon of *Cardigan*, Prebendary of *Litchfield*, and Rector of *Solihull* in *Warwickshire*.

Rev. Mr. Sherman, Rector of *Storton* in *Northamptonshire*.

Andrew Smart, Esq; in the Commission of the Peace for the County of *Suffex*.

Lady Courtney, Aunt to the present Sir William Courtney, Bart.

Capt. Hamilton, of the Foot-Guards.

Rev. Dr. Anderson, a noted Dissenting Minister, Author of the *Royal Genealogical Tables*, &c.

Countess of *Murray*, Sister to the Lord *Falmercomb*.

Lady Wolfenbolme, Relict of Sir William Wolfenbolme, Bart.

Ecclesiastical PREFERMENTS.

MR. Josiah Tucker, to the Rectory of *All-Saints* in *Bristol*.

Mr. Francis Blackburne, to the Rectory of *Richmond* in *Yorkshire*.

Mr. John Castlemain, made a Prebendary of the Cathedral Church of *Bristol*.

Mr. Taylor, Curate of *St. James's, Westminster*, made Chaplain to the Prince of *Wales*.

Mr. John Caer, presented to the Rectory of *Twinsted* in *Essex*.

Mr. Nicolls chosen Lecturer of *Aldermanbury*.

Mr. Broughton presented to the Rectory of *Stibington* in *Huntingtonshire*.

PROMOTIONS Civil and Military.

RT. Hon. the Lord Walpole, eldest Son of Sir Robert, made Auditor of the Exchequer.

quer, in the Room of the Earl of Halifax, decess'd. And,

Edward Walpole, Esq; another of Sir Robert's Sons, made a Clerk of the Pell-Office in the Exchequer, in the Room of Lord Walpole, his Brother.

Dr. Peters, appointed Physician-General to the Army, in the Room of Dr. Hollings, decess'd.

—Guise, Esq; Son of Col. Guise, made an Ensign in the First Reg. of Foot-Guards, in the Room of the Hon. Mr. Waldegrave, promoted in the said Regiment.

Rev. Mr. Colson chose Mathematical Professor in the University of Cambridge, in the Room of Dr. Saunderson, the blind Gentleman, decess'd.

A Grant pass'd the Great-Seal to W. Cowper, Esq; the Younger, of the Office of Clerk of the Parliaments, in Reversion after the Death of W. Cowper, the Elder, Esq; and of Ashby Cowper, Esq;

PERSONS declar'd Bankrupts.

MATTHEW Robinson, late of East Greenwich, Kent, Brick and Lime-maker. — Philip Cooke, of St. George the Martyr, Chapman. — Wm. Latimer, Malcom Brown, and James Brown, of Worcester, Chapmen and Partners. — Charles Dalrymple, of Norwich, Draper. — Mary Peep, late of Bristol, Snuff-maker. — Thomas Parkinson, of Southwark, Innholder. — Samuel Harrison and Robert Wear, of Shoe-lane, Brewers. — Roger Thew, late of Ludlam, Norfolk, Taylor. — Edward Knowles, of London-Bridge, Cutler. — Andrew Ogier, of Spittlefields, Weaver. — Rich. Grimstead, late of Bristol, Linen-Draper. — Tho. Geery, late of Cambridge, Vintner. — Elizabeth Clarke, of Newton Abbott, Devon, Mercer. — Thomas Ryder, of the same Place, Serge-maker. — John Meredith, of Maid-lane, Southwark, Cabinet-maker. — John Hardman, of St. Martin's in the Fields, Warehouse-man. — Charles Hughs, late of Houndsditch, Brewer. — Thomas Young, of Bridgewater-Garden, Dealer. — Richard Webb, of Fromesfelwood, in the County of Somerset, Clothier. — Rich. Hayton, of London, Hosier. — Thomas Blockley, late of Hapstead, Blacksmith. — Charles Scott, late of Wapping, Watch-maker. — George Fane, of Christ-Church, Surrey, Bricklayer. — John Blackall, of Thames-street, Wine-Cooper. — Andrew Mayers, late of Bishopgate-Street, Merchant. — Thomas Clarke, of St. Martin's in the Fields, Vintner. — John Rayner, of Spittlefields, Peruke-maker. — Thomas Bowls, of London, Merchant. — Emanuel Tucker, of Hatherleigh, in Devon, Serge-maker. — John Vaughan, late of Lombard-street, Apothecary. — Thomas Cheshire, of Little Kirby-street, Hatton-Garden, Merchant. — Thomas Wood, of Christ-Church, Surrey, Colour-maker. — Roger Newbam, late of Burr-street, near St. Catherine's, Tobacconist. — Richard Ashby, of Wy-moutham in Norfolk, Draper.

Prices of Stocks, &c. towards the End of the Month.

STOCKS.

S. Sea 99 $\frac{3}{4}$	Afric. 13 $\frac{3}{4}$
— Bonds 21. 4s.	Royal Aff. 99 $\frac{3}{4}$
— Annu. 111. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ a $\frac{3}{8}$	Lon. ditto 12 $\frac{3}{8}$
Bank nothing done	3 per C. An. 105 $\frac{3}{8}$
— Circ. 21. 17s. 6d.	Eng. Copper none
Mil. Bank 121	Salt Tallies $\frac{1}{2}$ a 11. $\frac{1}{2}$
India 169	Emp. Loan 111. 12 $\frac{1}{4}$
— Bonds 61. 11s. 2 12	Equiv. 113 $\frac{1}{4}$
The Course of EXCHANGE.	
Amst. 35 5 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ a 2	Bilboa 39 $\frac{1}{8}$
D. Sight 35 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	Legborn 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ a $\frac{3}{8}$
Rotter. 35 6	Genoa 52 $\frac{1}{4}$
Hamb. 34 3 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	Venice 50 a $\frac{1}{8}$
P. Sight 31	Lisb. 51 52 $\frac{1}{8}$ a $\frac{1}{4}$
Bourdx. 31	Oport. 51 54 $\frac{1}{4}$
Cadiz 39 $\frac{1}{8}$	Antw. 36 3 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Madrid 39 $\frac{1}{8}$	Dublin 9 $\frac{1}{4}$

Prices of Goods at Bear-Key.

Wheat 28 29	Oats 11 14 6
Rye 12 17	Tares 20 22
Barley 13 17	Pease 21 28
H. Beans 18 22	H. Peas 16 17
P. Malt 16 21	B. Malt 17 18

Abstract of the London WEEKLY BILL, from April 24 to May 22.

Christned	Males 623	Females 629	1252
Buried	Males 993	Females 1014	2007
Died under 2 Years old			768
Between 2 and 5			195
5		10	55
10		20	57
20		30	171
30		40	157
40		50	181
50		60	181
60		70	120
70		80	78
80		90	30
90 and upwards			13

Hay 34 to 40s. a Load.

1N

IN the Year 1701, when great Differences subsisted between *England* and *France*, which soon after came to an open Rupture, the *French* Court made an Edict, by which it was ordered, that no *English* Ships should be allowed to import any Commodities into *France*, but such as were of *English* Produce. This Edict continues yet unrepealed, but was never put in Execution till within this last Twelvemonth, when that Court took the Liberty to revive the Edict, by ordering it to be strictly put in Execution; and from *Paris* we are told, that the Earl of *Waldegrave*, our Ambassador at that Court, having lately made Complaints upon this Subject, all the Satisfaction he received was, that the *English* must not expect any Alteration or Favour in that Article, unless they lessen the Duties on *French* Wines exported to *England*; which seems a little surprizing, considering that we have not laid any new or additional Duty on *French* Wines ever since the last War against that Kingdom.

We have an Account from *Macon*, near *Nogent*, upon the River *Seine*, that two Men digging a Grave in a Church-yard there, found a Skull, which they threw upon the Grass by them, with the common Unconcern of Grave-Diggers; but soon after, perceiving it to stir, they ran to the Curate of the Parish, and told him what they had seen. The superstitious Curate immediately supposed it was the Skull of some Saint, that had been buried in that Place, and therefore posted thither, where, to his great Surprise and Joy, he found the Skull still moving, upon which he cried out, a Miracle! a Miracle! and resolved to have the precious Relict deposited in his Church with all proper Ceremonies; for which Purpose, he sent in all Haste for a consecrated Dish, a Cross, and holy Water, his Surplice, Stole, and Cap, ordered all the Bells to be rung, and sent to give Notice of the joyful News to the Parishioners, who thronged in Crowds to the Place. Then he had the Skull placed in the consecrated Dish, and being covered with a Napkin, it was carried to the Church in Procession; during which, great Debates arose among the Parishioners, every one insisting that some of their Family had been buried in that Place, in order that they might assume to themselves the Honour of having a Saint in their Family. Upon their Arrival at the Church, the Skull was placed on the high Altar, and the *Te Deum* was begun: but when they came to the Verse *Te per Orbem Terrarum*, a Mole luckily crawling out of the Skull, discovered the secret Cause of its Motion; upon which a Stop was put to the Ceremony, and the Congregation being greatly disappointed, dispersed. Now, if this poor Curate had had his Credulity, and more Cunning, he might,

and certainly would have taken Care, that this Secret should never have been discovered by any vulgar Eye; in which Case, we should have had yearly a long List of Miracles wrought by this sanctified Skull, and the Church would probably have become one of the richest in *France*.

A most extraordinary Fray or Riot has lately happened at *Bordeaux*, between the Custom-house Officers, and the Scholars of the several Colleges of that City, in which four of the latter were killed, and several wounded; but tho' the Scholars were properly the Rioters, the absolute and arbitrary Court of *France* have been so far from attempting to punish them, that they have ordered one or two of the Officers to be hanged, for occasioning the Riot by their Severity.

There being at present a great Scarcity of Corn in many of the Provinces of *France*, the Duke of *Orleans* has caused two Millions of Livres (near 100,000 *l.* Sterling) to be expended in the Purchase of Corn from this Country, to be distributed at a moderate Price among the Poor in those Provinces, where he has any Interest; which is a Charity truly worthy of a Prince, and shews, that he does not waste his Revenues in Luxury and Extravagance, or sordidly hoard them for the Satisfaction of his Avarice. But what is still more extraordinary, several of the *French* Bishops, we are told, have upon this Occasion laid out great Sums in Charity.

By our last Advices from *Madrid* we are told, that Mr. *Keene*, the *British* Envoy at that Court, having strongly solicited the Payment of the 95,000 *l.* stipulated by the late Convention, for indemnifying the *British* Merchants, as far as it will go, and which ought to have been paid on or before the 24th Instant, he was answered, That before paying that Sum, it was necessary to know, whether any of the *British* Ships had been restored, or any Part of either them; because by Agreement the Value of what has been restored, is to be deducted out of that Sum. But this we cannot believe, because by the 4th Article of the Convention, it is expressly provided, That the Payment of the 95,000 *l.* shall not be, for that Reason, in any Manner delayed.

From *Constantinople* we have an Account, that the late Prime Vizir has been deposed, and *Aywan Mehemet*, Seraskier of *Widdin*, put in his Room. This new Prime Vizir is look'd on as a prudent and experienc'd General, but more inclined to Peace than War; so that from his Promotion, the Conclusion of a Peace is expected: But in this the World may perhaps be disappointed; for as it is prudent in a General to seem inclined for Peace, notwithstanding his open Professions, his private Inclinations may be as warlike, as those of his Predecessor.

HISTORICAL.

1. **THE** History of the Life of *Peter the Great*. By *J. Mottley*, Esq; Sold by *J. Read*. In 3 Vols. 8vo, price 1*l*. 1*s*.

2. The ancient History of the *Egyptians*, &c. Vol. 1. and 2. in 12mo. Printed for *Mess. Knapton*, price 6*s*.

3. Rudiments of ancient History. By *E. Button*. Printed for *Mess. Ward and Chandler*, 12mo, price 3*s*.

4. An Account of the Life and Writings of *Edmund Dickinson*, M. D. By *W. Blomberg*, M. A. Printed for *R. Montagu*, price 3*s*. 6*d*.

5. The Lives of many illustrious Persons in the eastern Nations. Printed for *J. Wilcox*, 12mo, price 2*s*. 6*d*.

LAW.

6. *Jus Parliamentarium*. In 2 Parts. By *W. Petyt*, Esq; Sold by *J. Nourse*, Folio, price 1*l*. 5*s*.

7. An historical Account of the Original and Nature, as well as the Law of Devises and Revocations. Printed for *J. Walther*, 8vo, price 3*s*. 6*d*.

8. An historical Discourse of the Laws, &c. of *England*. By *N. Bacon*, Esq; The 4th Edition. Printed for *D. Browne* and *A. Millar*, Folio, price 1*l*. 4*s*.

9. The Attorney's Practice in the Court of *King's Bench*. Printed for *T. Woodward*, 8vo, price 6*s*.

MISCELLANEOUS.

10. The *British Representative*; or, a general List of all the Parliaments since the Union, including the present: Wherein every Member is properly distinguished by his Profession, or publick Employment, with the Alterations by Deaths, &c. To which is added, a List of the Speakers of the House of Commons from the 44th of *Henry III.* to this Time. Printed for *T. Aspley*, price 6*d*.

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